

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

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H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H., as Second Class Matter.

JANUARY 1, 1888.

A Cross opposite this notice signifies that your subscription has expired. We should be pleased to have you renew, and respectfully call your attention to the following:

SPECIAL OFFERS.

We will send the CURIOSITY WORLD to any address in the United States or Canada, to January 1, 1889—23 numbers—for any of the following:
25 cents cash, postal note or unused stamps.
500 U. S. square-cut Envelope stamps.
2,000 mixed U. S. or foreign stamps, any kind.
100 Match, Medicine, or any U. S. Revenues.
50c worth of any U. S. stamps catalogued at more than 5 cents each.
This offer expires Feb. 15, 1888.

Fred McC. Smith, of Washington, D. C. is about to publish the National Philatelist, a four page monthly.

The Keystone State Philatelist has suspended. The subscription list will be filled by the Quaker City Philatelist.

Two eggs of the Great Auk were recently sold in London, for more than \$500 each. Wouldn't object to owning a few specimens if we could sell them at that price.

For 200 square cut envelope stamps, we will send the CURIOSITY WORLD 3 months,—6 numbers—or a Gem stamp album, containing space for 600 stamps; or, for 400, we will send both.

The North Star Philatelist, after a vacation of about a year, comes to the front again. It is now published by G. W. Achard and A. V. Chamberlain, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Joseph J. Casey will hold his fourteenth Auction Sale at Bucken's Art Galleries, New York, Jan. 19th and 20th. The catalogue comprises scarce Foreign, rare U. S. Revenues and Proprietaries, Entire Envelopes, Post cards, Proofs, Essays, and a magnificent specimen of the Tax Stamp issued to the American Colonies under the Stamp Act. There are 1243 lots, and we imagine there will be some hustling for some of the rarities.

At Park Street, a little village on the borders of Bedfordshire, England, a workman was engaged in splitting some old beams from a demolished farm-house when, in the center of one, he came across a cavity out of which rolled more than 100 bright gold coins. They proved to be nobles, angels, and half angels of the reigns between Henry VII. and Henry VIII. It was evident that the cavity had been made for the purpose of boarding money, and the opening had been so artfully concealed as to be undistinguishable from the surrounding timber.

Howard K. Sanderson, of Lynn, Mass., whose articles have appeared from time to time in the WORLD, has a very interesting as well as valuable collection of autographs in his library. He collects only a few chosen series, but what he has obtained is especially good. Of the Presidents he has them all, nearly every name appearing at the end of an autograph letter. Of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, he has fifty-two, twenty eight being autograph letters. The royal signature of thirteen of the Kings and Queens of England make a collection by themselves. He has letters and documents of fifty of the Governors of Massachusetts, and about forty of the Generals of the Revolutionary War. Adding to these a good number of miscellaneous names, and mentioning that nearly every letter is illustrated with a portrait, it will seem that Mr. Sanderson has a collection worth looking over. He is pleased at all times to correspond with those who are interested, and from his large stock of duplicates is nearly always able to help one to some desired name.

R. R. Bogert & Co., will hold their fourth Auction Sale of Postage Stamps, Entire Envelopes, Post Cards, etc., at Leavitt's Auction Rooms, 787 and 789 Broadway, New York, on the evenings of Jan. 12th and 13th, 1888. The catalogue comprises over 1,100 lots, and contains many rarities. Messrs. Bogert & Co. are New York's leading stamp dealers, and are evidently doing a rushing business. They are good square fellows, both of them, and deserve their success.

Subscribe for the WORLD.

The specific gravity of gold is 19.5.

During the last fiscal year, the several United States mints coined \$57,703,412.

Try an advertisement in our next issue. Only 50 cents per inch for 2,500 circulation.

For 2000 mixed United States or foreign stamps, we will send this paper one year,—24 numbers.

The oldest Bank note in existence is dated 1899 B. C. and is in the Asiatic Museum, at St. Petersburg.

In 1865, a single egg of the Moa, the giant birds of New Zealand, long since extinct, was sold for \$1,000.

The Halifax Philatelist completed its first volume with the December number. Quite an aged paper for Canada.

One hundred match, medicine, playing card or any kind of U. S. revenue stamps, pays for this paper one year,—24 numbers.

We will give a new GEM stamp album containing space for 600 stamps, for only 200 square cut envelope stamps. See adv.

Mr. H. C. Beardsley, of St. Joseph, Mo., is about to publish the Missouri Philatelist. Mr. Beardsley has also started an advertising agency.

Mr. C. J. Fuelscher, the St. Louis stamp dealer, has changed his headquarters from 524 Washington Ave., to 2812 N. 10th St., St. Louis, Mo.

Our readers would do well to look over our Exchange column. There are many bargains offered there each issue and this number is no exception to the general rule.

In December, 1885, when an old building was being demolished at Svendborg, in Denmark, the workmen came upon a regal hoard. Ten bars of silver, 3,774 gold and silver coins, were a treasure-trove worth finding. It is curious to note that there had always been a tradition of hidden treasures connected with the house and the owner when selling it had expressly reserved the right to all treasures found therein.

IDEAL Packet No. 13 contains 20 varieties of obsolete U. S. stamps, including square cut envelope, War, Interior, Post Office, etc. Price 10 cents. Address J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The "Science Observer" is the name of a new magazine, published by Angus C. Smith, Vineland, N. J. No. 1 contains 16 pages and cover, and is well filled with interesting reading. We wish it the best of success.

Philatelic Frauds, 40 pages, (published by Simmons, 1883,) 15 cents; Black List, 12 pages, (published by Hubbard, 1886,) 11 cents; Coffin's Directory of Philatelic Frauds, 1887, 12 pages, 11 cents, or the three books for 25 cents, postpaid. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The Britishers pay \$27,000 a year to the officers who look after precious coins, relics, etc., as follows: keeper of Coins and Medals, \$3,700, also an assistant who receives \$3,000; keeper of Manuscripts, \$3,250; keeper of Oriental Manuscripts, \$3,750; also an assistant who receives \$2,500; keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities, \$3,750, and keeper of British and Mediæval Antiquities, \$3,750.

"C. L. P.," in Science Observer, says: "While on a collecting trip, I found in a hole in a tree, two eggs of the Golden Winged Woodpecker; I took one, leaving the other as a nest egg, and continued to do this day after day, until she had laid seventy-one. The Woodpecker rested two days, taking her seventy-three days to lay seventy-one eggs. I prize this set very highly."

This is a pretty large sized story. Should think he would prize the set very highly.

50 Philatelic Papers, no two alike, post free \$1.50. 100 all different, \$3.50. A collection of 500 varieties, American and Foreign including complete files of Foreign Stamp Collectors' News, (20 numbers) National Philatelist, (12 numbers) Granite State Philatelist, (26 numbers) New England Philatelist, (12 numbers) Empire State Philatelist, etc. \$25.00. 10 Auction Sale Catalogues—Coins, Stamps, etc. \$1.00. Philatelic publications, Stamps, Autographs, Coins and Indian Relics, bought, sold and exchanged. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The Literary Board of the A. P. A. advertise the American Philatelist as "the best philatelic paper ever published." We are inclined to think they are about right. The December issue is a grand number, and the succeeding numbers promise to be even better. Pres. J. K. Tiffany, Major E. B. Evans, Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, Dr. W. H. Mitchell, Robert C. H. Brock and other noted philatelists are regular contributors. The Association now has a paper of which every member may justly feel proud, and all philatelists who are not members should certainly subscribe for it.

Finds of the Stone Age.

BY E. F. NEWCOMER.

Finds of objects classified as belonging to the first epoch of the stone age, have been made principally in the caverns of Aurignac, in the hills Fajole, the Tron de la Fontaine, the cave of Vallierer, Monstier and of the department Ariege in France; in Kents cave, Gower and Wells in England and in caves in Italy, Sicily, Spain, Egypt, Syria, Brazil, Belgium and Algeria. In these caverns and also sometimes on the surface of the ground, or buried in it have been found large quantities of chipped flints, arrow heads and various stone implements, to all of which archaeologists usually give the common name of hatchets. The commonest of the worked flints is the almond shaped type. These instruments are oval hatchets carefully chipped all over the surface so as to form a cutting edge. The Monstier type is a pointed flint wrought on one side, the other being entirely plain. The third type is that of knives which are thin and narrow tongue shaped flakes, with one of the ends chipped to a point, and were used as scrapers.

Small round bodies with a hole through the middle, which are believed to be fossil shells used for adornment, were discovered near Andernach. To guard against fraud and to detect modern imitations of ancient stone implements, it is well to notice whether the flints are coated with branching crystallizations called "dendrites" of a dark brown color, produced by the combined action of the oxides of iron and manganese, generally contained in fossiliferous beds.

The finds which are assigned to the second division of the stone age, the epoch of the reindeer or of migrated existing animals, consists of flints which bear marks of more skillful workmanship and implements in ivory, bone and reindeer horn, not found in caves where human bones were mixed up with those of animals. Numerous instruments have been found, which must have been used as needles, as they are exactly like those now used by the Lapps for the same purpose. To this period are also assigned the polishers, formed of sand-stone or some other material of a rough surface, which were used for polishing bone and horn. Other objects classified as belonging to this age, are flint points with a cutting edge, probably used for drills, earthen vases and urns, and at the bottom bear traces of the action of fire; staves of horn which were probably symbols of authority; small flint saws, fine toothed and double edged; whistles made from the first joint of the foot of a reindeer; bone bodkins or stilts, either with or without a handle; and smoothers, perhaps intended to flatten down the seams in the skins used for clothing. The most important places where finds of such articles have been made, are the caves near Finale, on the road from Geneva to Nice; a cave near Geneva; the caverns at Abbenville, Lavache and Chaffant, in France; and the gravel beds of Wyoming and Colorado.

The third epoch of the stone age, with domesticated animals of existing species, which is also designated as the polished stone epoch, is believed to embrace the finds made in the kitchen middens (heap of refuse) principally in Scandinavia, but also discovered in England, Scotland and France. Pereira da Costa met with them on the coast of Portugal, and Lyell on the coast of Georgia and Massachusetts.

Finds of numerous hatchets and other polished instruments, near the fragments of several polishing stones, have given rise to the supposition that at this epoch there were regular work-shops in which implements and weapons were manufactured. Finds of stone implements have been made in the vicinity of Alton, Illinois; Jackson, Laporte and Crawford counties, Indiana; in Paris, Wisconsin and a few in Kentucky.

Resolution.

These resolutions were adopted by the New York Philatelic Society.

WHEREAS, there seems to be a difference of opinion among collectors with regard to the status of the 10 cent, 30 cent and 90 cent Envelopes of the United States, of the issues of October, 1886, and SEPTEMBER, 1887, and

WHEREAS, one of the main objects of this society is, "the procuring and dissemination of knowledge in relation to the Postage Stamps of all Nations," etc., and

WHEREAS, after a careful and impartial consideration of the arguments, both in favor and against the said Envelopes, it is evident beyond question, that they are as legitimate as any Envelopes ever issued by the United States. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the National Philatelic Society, although deprecating the issues of many of the smaller sizes, considers that the said Envelopes are worthy of a place in all collections of United States Envelopes, both entire and cut.

JOSEPH RECHERT, President.

Great Age of Fishes.

It is not generally known that there is hardly any limit to the age of a fish. The late Prof. Baird, of the United States fish commission, is the authority for the statement that there is authentic evidence to show that carp have maintained an age of 200 years.

There is a tradition that within fifty years a pike was living in Russia whose age dated back to the fifteenth century.

There are gold fish in Washington that have belonged to one family over fifty years. They do not appear much larger than when they were originally placed in the aquarium, and are every bit as lively as when young.

The Russian Minister says that in the royal aquarium at St. Petersburg there are fish to-day that have been known by the records to have been in them 140 years. Some of them are, he says, over five times as large as they were when first captured, while some have not grown an inch.

An attache of the Chinese legation says that there are sacred fish kept in some of the palaces in China that are older than any of those in Russia.—[Philadelphia Press.

A Cure For Wounds.

The smoke of woolen rags is a cure for the most dangerous wounds. A lady of my acquaintance ran a machine needle through her finger. She could not be released till the machine was taken to pieces. The needle had broken into her finger in three pieces, one of which was bent almost double. After repeated trials the pieces were extracted by pincers, but they were very strongly imbedded. The pain reached the shoulder, and there was every danger of lockjaw. The woolen rags were put over the coals, and she held her finger over the smoke, and in a very short time all the pain was gone and it never returned, though it was some little time before the finger healed. This is but one of many instances of such cure, some of them taking place after several days from the time of the wound. Let woolen rags be kept sacredly and always at hand for wounds. The smoke and stench will fill the house, perhaps, but that is a trifle when the alternative is lockjaw, or even a long, painful sequel to a wound. Another instance was the wound made by an enraged cat, which tore the flesh from the wrist to the elbow, and bit through the fleshy part of the hand. One ministrant of the smoke extracted all the pain, which had been frightful.—[Boston Transcript.

Do Birds Fly Down?

I see, in a back number of *St. Nicholas*, that one of our young correspondents appeals partly to me in regard to birds flying down. But all who have written seem so well posted that I doubt if I can add anything to their knowledge.

However, I have seen a California quail, a wood-dove, and a humming-bird flying downward; but in slow flyers, with large wings and heavy bodies, the wings are used more or less as parachutes in going down; in other words, the birds spread their wings, and rely upon gravity. This I have noticed in the sandhill cranes in their migrations along the Sierra Madres. A flock, of say a hundred, will mount upward in a beautiful spiral, flashing in the sunlight, all the while uttering loud, discordant notes, until they attain an altitude of nearly a mile above the sea-level. Then they form in regular lines, and soar away at an angle that in five miles or so, will bring them within one thousand feet of the earth. Then they will stop and begin the spiral upward movement again until a high elevation is reached, when away they go again sliding down hill in the air, toward their winter home. It is very evident that a vast amount of muscular exertion is saved in this way. In some of these slides that I have watched through a glass, birds would pass from three to four miles, I should judge, without flapping the wings.—[St Nicholas.

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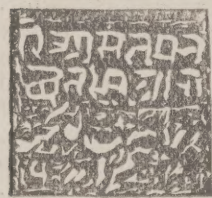
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An Oologist's Vacation.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.

(Continued.)

Early the next morning we were awak-
ened by the warbling songs of the Wood
Thrush and the Redstart; the "small talk"
of inquisitive chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*)
who boldly ventured nearer us, pre-
tending to be in search of last year's
acorns: in fact it seemed to us as if all the
sylvan animal life were having a peaceful
contest, in determining their superiority
in the use of his vocal chords. Our com-
bined efforts soon had breakfast ready,
and after partaking of it, we decided as
to how the cooking was to go on. It was
finally decided that we should take "turn
about it," one of us to take care of it the
alternate day. By throwing up a coin it
was determined that Harry would be the
chef *de cuisine* the first day. I then took
my note-book, sixteen guage gun, and
collecting-box and started out for an all
day's trip, amply provided with lunch,
while Harry, after washing his breakfast
dishes, started in an opposite direction.

When I started out, I concluded to take
at least two sets of every species I found;
one for my private collection which was
very defective in regard to its data, and
the other to enlarge my exchange list. Hav-
ing concluded to stroll through the hazel
shrubs and cobwebs, the first suspicious
signs I saw that would "give away" the
location of their nests, were those of a fe-
male Summer Yellow-bird going through
the most fantastic motions imaginable.
Thinks I to myself, "Old lady, if you think
you can fool an old oologist by these
maneuvers, just go on;" so I began indus-
triously to search for her nest. My efforts
were soon rewarded by finding the nest
made or rather fashioned in the crutch of
a small hazel bush; stepping into the
thicket, I found there were five pearly
bluish, speckled eggs in their warmly felt-
ed lodging place, the last probably just
having been deposited as it was warmer
than the others. "This set shall go into
my collection," so I seated myself under
the shade of a neighboring walnut, blew
them out and recorded all interesting notes
in my book.

Proceeding onward, in walking across
a small opening between two belts of
woods, I flushed a small gray bird, the
Grass Finch, from the ground close to my
feet. "Pretty good; she's got a nest,"
and walking to a small bunch of clover
where she arose, I found her nest contain-
ing four eggs slightly incubated. They
too, went into the box. I soon found
three more Yellow-bird's nests, taking but
one, as they are an abundant bird in the
United States, and hard to exchange.
While near a clump of hazel, I saw a male
Indigo Bunting making himself suspicious
by his too watchful ways; so after a little
searching I found his nest close to the
ground, in a hazel-bush. It was a very
inartistic nest for such gay plumage birds
as the Indigo. There were three of their
eggs and a cowbird's in the nest. Taking
them to a near trickling stream in a ravine,
I proceeded to blow them, using the crystal
like water to rinse the interior. While
at work, I heard a *tsip tsip* close to my
head. "What can that be?" for I had
looked every time I heard it, but observed
nothing; looking up however, I noticed
that I was sitting under a Wood Thrush's
nest, and the sound was made by the fe-
male flying close to me and snapping her
bill. Climbing the tree, I found there
were four blue eggs in the nest, but the
bough was so fragile I was unable to ob-
tain them. By the close of the day I
found four more nests of this species,
which I took. While glancing among the
trees I found a Redstart with a bit of moss
in its mouth, and thinking I would find
her nest, stood still. After she found I
was "not on mischief bent," she resumed
work on her house which was near by. I
also found two more of this species, one
having one egg, the other not finished.

As it was past noon, I turned my steps
campward. When passing through a heavy
belt of woods, I was surprised to find a
hawk's nest, the hawk being on the nest.
"Too bad, I soliloquized, it's so late in
the season." The hawk seeing she was
the centre of attraction, flew from the
nest. It was Cooper's Hawk (*accipiter
cooperi*.) Unable to resist the temptation
to see what the nest contained, I decided
to climb the tree. I found there were
four eggs in the nest. To decide whether
I should take them or not (I thought they
were so nearly incubated that it would be
impossible to blow them.) I determined to
drop my knife to the ground. If the blade
struck ground, I'd take them, if not, I'd
leave them. After the knife fell I was
unable to see it, so I took the eggs, which
with the aid of the embryo hook and
scissors I managed to empty. I searched
diligently for the knife, but was not able to
find it, but you may rest assured it cured
me of further superstitious ideas.

It still being over a mile to camp, and
my route lying through the heavy woods,

I could see and hear the affectionate mam-
mas of the Crow and Nuthatch families
endeavor to conceal their offspring's hid-
ing places. I reached camp about 4 P. M.,
some time after Harry had returned from
his archaeological hunt. He reported very
poor success, but was able to obtain a rare
arrow point. The bars were so cut as
to curve in opposite directions, producing
when propelled, a rotary motion similar
to that of a rifle ball. It was the first that
either of us had ever seen and was pro-
nounced by Harry as being a very rare
specimen. He also found a small Mound
Builder's Mound which we are going to
open tomorrow.

(To be continued.)

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Exchange Notices not exceeding 24 words are
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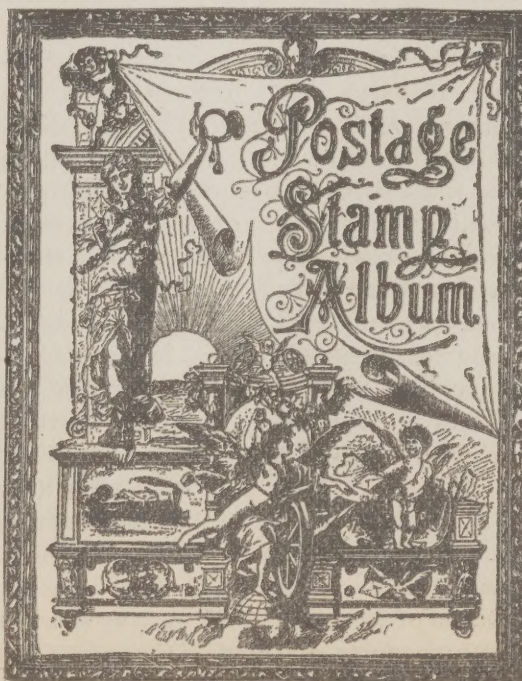
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SOME INTERESTING AUTOGRAPHS.

BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.

(Continued.)

The people had, in the meantime, been gradually changing their views, and when Charles the Second who had been in refuge ever since his proclamation by the Scotch, wrote the House a letter, that body acted favorably toward him and he came back to Whitehall, where he was crowned king amid great rejoicing. The Stuarts were thus restored in the national government. From the first of their line, they had insisted in the divine right of Kings, and Charles was no exception. He was called the "Merry Monarch," and to show how his merriness emphasized itself, it may not be out of place to say that he immediately set about hunting up those who had been concerned in the death of his father. The men who brought that event about were called regicides, and of them, he caught ten who were put to death. Among others was Sir Harry Vane, who had been a colonial governor of the new province of Massachusetts Bay. Then upon the anniversary day of the king's execution, the body of Cromwell was taken from its grave in Westminster Abbey, dragged to Tyburn, hanged on a gallows all day long and then beheaded. Think of the crowd which stared at his head as it was set upon a pole, which never would have dared look him in the face while living. The bodies of his wife and daughter were also dug up and thrown in a pit with the remains of Pym and old Admiral Blake. The court of the King at this time was the most outrageous the English people had ever seen, and he the most profligate monarch who had sat upon the throne. As if in reproof of his bad deeds, the people of London were visited, during his reign with two terrible visitations. During the summer of 1665 the great plague carried away one hundred thousand, and hardly had it died out when fire took its turn, breaking out in a baker's shop near London Bridge. It was not extinguished until it had burned from the Tower to Temple Bar, laying in ruins thirteen thousand houses and eighty-nine churches. All this time the merry King was having a very good time squandering money in drunkenness and debauchery. But it came to an end at last. On the second of February, 1685, he was stricken with apoplexy and died on the succeeding Friday, his last act being to send for a Catholic priest.

As we have said the autograph of the second Charles very closely resembles that of his father. It is not written well, but is a triumph of penmanship when compared with the autograph of King Henry. Unlike every name we have spoken of, it is not very rare, in comparison, yet it is safe to say that but few collections can show the name. We have a very fine royal sign manual to a folio, in 1672, which we value at about nine dollars. But it is in the finest possible condition, this fact of course, adding to its value.

King Charles was succeeded by his brother, James the Second, Duke of York. His great and only object was to establish the Catholic religion again among his people, and he threw himself headlong into the work. There is not much to be said of his reign, except that it may be mentioned he was a high-handed murderer, putting to death scores of Protestants in his vain endeavor to gain the supremacy. He was successful for a time, but at last his efforts disgusted both Whigs and Tories, and they united in asking William, Prince of Orange, to come over and be King. William was the grandson of Charles the First, and nephew and son-in-law of James the Second, having married the latter's daughter, Mary. He at once collected a fleet and came over to England, the people, in the meantime, having declared themselves against King James. The latter, at last in despair, threw the great seal into the Thames one night, and crossed over to France, a fugitive. The people then declared the throne vacant and that the Catholic line of Stuarts should be excluded from the government. The crown was then offered to William and Mary, and the Great Revolution was accomplished. The autograph of King James the Second, unworthy as he was, must of necessity be placed in a series, and as it is not particularly rare, no great difficulty need be experienced in securing it. Like all of the kings and queens, the royal signature on a document is the common form of the name, and the simple "James, R." at the head of a paper should not be worth more than nine or ten dollars. The King had an unfortunate way, however, of writing good letters and leaving them unsigned, a fact that collectors can only regret, for it often leaves without interest the finest specimen. The writer was in possession a short time ago, of a fine autograph letter of King James, upon public affairs, and of considerable length, but the signature was lacking, detracting greatly from its value.

William and Mary were now on the throne and favorably impressed the people. They governed wisely and well, and but for the efforts of the vanquished King James to regain his power everything would have gone smoothly. The queen died in 1694, and William ruled alone. His great ambition was to put down the power of France, but before he had a fair chance, he was killed by a fall from his horse. This fatality took place March 8, 1702, James having died in the meantime. The autographs of William and Mary are quite hard to obtain. The queen had but few papers to sign and her signature is the rarest. A good document signed would be worth ten dollars, and one of William seven or eight dollars. The King wrote a large condensed hand, which gives one the idea that he realized his importance and wished to have his name seen. We have had no difficulty in procuring a good document of King William, but Queen Mary has only come to us within the past month. It is a dainty little signature and not very clear.

The government now came to Anne, sister-in-law of William the Third, and daughter of James the Second. She was a homely, simple woman, but her disposition and virtues gave her the title of "Good Queen Anne." During her reign, the great trouble between the High and Low Church folk took place. Her rule, however, was not marked by any of the great struggles which had so characterized the times of her ancestors, but it will be remembered as one of the most important periods of English literature. In 1714, she died of apoplexy, and was laid to rest in Westminster Abbey. Of her seventeen children, not one was living at her decease, and so, with her, went out the last light of the Stuarts. Queen Anne's autograph reminds one of the modern schoolboy's first attempt to sign his name. Her signature consists of four capital letters, all of the same height and joined together, but it is wonderfully plain. The autograph is not very rare and should not be worth over eight or nine dollars. We have a beautiful four page folio document, signed in a clear hand, which cost us less than that amount.

(To be Continued.)

How Coin is Made.

BY H. RIDER. In writing this article I feel that I will be compelled to use some technical terms in speaking of the different processes through which the metal is compelled to go from the time in which it is brought to the mint as bullion, until it leaves it as United States money. But these terms I think the reader will be able to understand, as they are frequently used.

The bullion from which our coin is made is brought to the mint in every shape and form; amalgamations from the ore, coins, bars, plate, jewelry etc. These present many grades of fineness, some of it being easily worked while some is not. Sometimes a deposit of gold is found to contain a large amount of silver, in which case it is sent to the assay department. On being received here, it is weighed and sent to the melting room, where it is melted and cast into a bar. Each bar is numbered and a piece is then cut from it and sent to the assay department, where the amount of pure metal in the bar is ascertained. After this it is ready for the refiner. The bars are about twelve inches long, half an inch thick and from one to two and a half inches wide, according to the coin for which it is to be used.

When the bars or ingots have been approved, the next operation is to bring them to a red heat so they can be rolled easily; they are then run through steel rollers so arranged that the bar can be reduced to the thickness of the coin to be made. From this the flattened bars are taken to a drawing bench in which the strips or bars are drawn through drawing dies to reduce the strips to the exact thickness. The strip is next passed through a cutting press and pieces of the proper size are cut from it. In this press the pieces are cut at the rate of one hundred and sixty per minute! After this process the remainder of the strip is returned to the melting room. The pieces or planchets are next taken to the coining room and are passed through the milling machine. This process consists of dropping the pieces into an upright tube and as they descend they are caught in the edge of a wheel and carried about a quarter of a revolution, during which the edge of the piece is compressed and forced up, on account of the space between the wheel and the rim being a little less than the diameter of the piece. The number of pieces that can be milled in this machine per minute, varies according to the size, but of half dimes the number is five hundred and sixty per minute on an average. The pieces are next tempered, cleaned and whitened and in the case of gold coins, they are weighed piece by piece. The silver pieces are not weighed until completed when they are weighed in bulk.

The milled pieces are now ready to receive the last impression, this being given by the coining press. This machine receives the pieces through a tube from a workman; as the coin reaches the bottom of the tube, it is seized by a pair of fingers, carried forward and placed in a steel collar between the dies. While the fingers are returning for another piece, the dies close in on the one within the collar and impress it without noise. The fingers as they grasp another piece from the tube, also take the finished coin, and while conveying a second piece to the die, they carry the coin off and drop it into a box placed to receive them. This finishes the process of making coin, but a short description of the coin presses may not be out of place in this article. These presses are made of different sizes to suit the variety of coins. They are usually run so as to strike sixty pieces per minute of the half dollar, seventy-five per minute of the quarter dollar and ninety of the dime and half dime.

The dies are prepared by engravers employed at the mint for this purpose. The dies are first made in soft steel and are afterwards finished and hardened. This is called multiplying die, as it is used to impress other pieces of steel which are hardened and used for striking the coins. The original die goes through such an expensive operation, that it is never used for striking the coins, but only for making other dies. These latter when in use will last about two weeks running daily.

Rare British Americans.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

Few stamps of North America are more to be desired by collectors than those of Vancouver's Island and British Columbia. Vancouver is an island belonging to Great Britain, lying off the north-west coast of North America. It is 800 miles long from north-west to south-east and 75 miles in greatest breadth. The area is 14,000 square miles. The town of Victoria is the residence of the British governor. The possession of Vancouver's Island was secured by Great Britain by the Oregon treaty in 1846. British Columbia was established in 1858, on the Pacific coast. It contains about 200,000 square miles.

In 1861, a postage stamp was issued for the joint use of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island. It was a 2 1-2 pence, of rose color. Upon the separate organization of the colony of British Columbia, Vancouver's Island in 1865, used stamps of a distinct design. These stamps bear the watermark in the paper CC and crown. They were issued unperforated and were afterward perforated. The issue consisted of 5 cent rose, and ten cent blue. In 1865, British Columbia issued a single value 3 pence blue, with the water mark CC, and crown. In 1868, a full series was issued, of identical types with the foregoing, the different values made by surcharging the value in different colors on the stamp as follows:

Two cent black, surcharged on brown; Five cent, black on red; Ten cent, blue on rose; Twenty-five cent, violet on yellow; Fifty cent red on violet; and one dollar, green on green.

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We have just issued the Stamp Dealers of the World, containing the address of over 600 stamp dealers in all parts of the world. The list is as complete as is possible to make it and contains 29 pages and cover and is very valuable to both dealer and collector. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three for 27 cents. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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50c worth of any U. S. stamps catalogued at more than 5 cents each.
This offer expires Feb. 15, 1888.

We have been requested several times to change the WORLD into magazine form. The paper is in bad form for binding, it is true, but as about all the papers of its class are in magazine form, we thought it advisable to have something different from the ordinary run, besides, it is much easier "making up" a new-paper than a magazine, and we gain about three columns space as it is now. However, if our readers really wish us to change over, we will do so, beginning March 1st, with Vol. III. If we make the change, the pages will be about the size of the American Philatelist, and there will be 16 pages or more, with cover, each issue. We should like to have our readers express their views on the subject. If the majority wish a change, they shall have it; if not, we will let the size remain as it is.

We will give a new GEM stamp album containing space for 600 stamps, for only 200 square cut envelope stamps. See adv.

One hundred match, medicine, playing card or any kind of U. S. revenue stamps, pays for this paper one year,—24 numbers.

No. 1 of the Eastern Philatelist has made its appearance. It is published by W. H. Goodrich and H. A. Trask, of Fitchburg, Mass., and makes a very creditable appearance.

For 200 square cut envelope stamps, we will send the CURIOSITY WORLD 3 months,—6 numbers—or a Gem stamp album, containing space for 600 stamps; or, for 400, we will send both.

Robert W. Manier of Binghamton, N. Y., formerly publisher of the American Philatelic Record, has charge of the books and office of the Binghamton Gas and Electric Light Company.

Philatelic Frauds, 40 pages, (published by Simmons, 1883,) 15 cents; Black List, 12 pages, (published by Hubbard, 1886,) 11 cents; Coffin's Directory of Philatelic Frauds, 1887, 12 pages, 11 cents, or the three books for 25 cents, postpaid. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The winters are long and very severe in Lapland. Their winter begins in October, and ends in June, and during the entire season they never see the sun. What a long, gloomy night these eight months must be, with only the moon, stars and Northern lights to dispel the gloom. The last day the sun appears in October, the inhabitants climb to the tops of the highest hills in their vicinity, and witness the setting of the sun, and then comes the long, cold winter. In June, they climb the hills again to welcome back the sun, and a royal welcome it must be.

One of the largest deals in rare stamps which has been made for some time was consummated December 15; 720 stamps of the first issue of Brazil were sold for the enormous sum of \$300, or nearly 45c. apiece. These stamps had been personally collected by Mr. James Stewart in Brazil at the time of their issue, and had been carefully preserved all these years. The purchaser was Mr. G. B. Calman, the well-known New York dealer. The stamps sold were apportioned thus: Fifty sets of the first issue; fifty each of the denominations 10, 20, 60, 90, 180, and 300, of the second issues, and 10, 60, 90, and 180 of the third issue; a set of the 600 value, second issue. This transaction throws upon the market a good number of some very rare stamps that are seldom seen except in large collections.—[V. R.]

The Proper Method of Classifying the Local Stamps of the United States.

BY W. H. MITCHELL, D. D. S.

How many Philatelists know what they mean when they use this word, Local? This word introduced into the nomenclature of Philately has, by general usage, become the synonym for private stamp, and the definition of this word as given by a MSS. work, soon to be in press, is as follows:

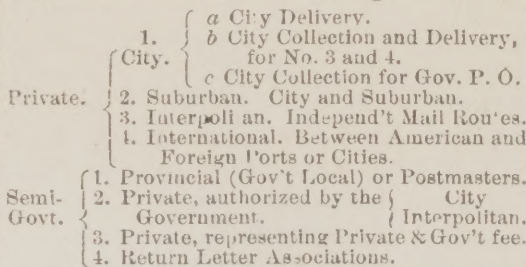
"LOCAL.—The stamp (adhesive), stamp-envelope, wrapper, or card, used by a private individual or corporation to pre-pay or to collect the fee for transmitting a message either by private mail or telegraph on private routes or to government mail."

Those who have made the Locals of the world a study, have from the misleading nomenclature now in vogue, seen that there is a great variety of Locals, viz: the Russian Local, the Oriental Local, the stamps of Shanghai and China, the Scandinavian Locals, the East India Co., the North Borneo Co., the issues of Steamship Companies, and Postmasters' stamps. But the study of the methods of using these stamps and the circumstances attending their issue will show that these are not to be classed with true Locals. The Russian District stamps are partly governmental; the Oriental are governmental intended for local mail. The stamps of Shanghai and China, while they are issued by private parties, are still under a contract with, or at least approved by a government that has issued none. The East India and British North Borneo Company not only issued stamps but coined money and governed territory that was afterwards formed into colonies.

But to come to Locals as generally understood, we find that in history The First Post was a Local Post; The First Stamp (adhesive) was a Local Stamp; The First Card was a Local; The First Wrapper was a Local.

But in the United States, private enterprise preceded the government in the development of the country, and the express business of today had its origin in the Local Letter Expresses of the '40's.

Mr. Coster in his "United States Locals and their History," divides Locals into two general classes with a sub-class of each; but this method of classification leaves much to be understood that might not be apparent to the non-philatelist or the anti-local collector; therefore, after much study, I have divided the Locals of the United States private mails into the classes as is shown in the diagram below:



Of the First-Class Locals there are three varieties: (a), those established in towns and cities where there was, at the time, no governmental delivery, or where the system was inadequate for mercantile necessities; (b), also those that, in addition to this, connected with interpolitan or international posts and collected and delivered for those posts which, in many instances, turned over their mail to city posts for delivery. The third (c) are posts that collected mail from their own boxes, offices and residences destined for governmental mail.

The Second Class, the Suburban Local, is, in many cases, an interpolitan; still it is essential to distinguish such posts as the "Staten Island" from the stamps issued by the independent mails that ran thousands of miles. These stamps were used by posts that did, as their name indicates, a suburban business, and the places that once knew them are now lost in the great cities that have surrounded and absorbed them.

The Interpolitan Local is the one that is best known to the mercantile world. This is due to the wonderful success of the well-known express of Wells, Fargo & Co.; but the history of this one post involves the history of hundreds of posts, many of which left no philatelic token and on whose routes Wells, Fargo & Co. are running to-day.

The various independent mail companies not only gave better service than the government, but by a system of connecting expresses carried matter where the government mail did not extend, and they either succumbed to government prosecution, or were absorbed by Wells, Fargo & Co. or the Adams or American Express Co.'s.

It is under this division that I would place the stamp of the telegraph companies, for the telegraph is only a mode of transmission and, I now believe, should be placed with the Locals of this country.

The International Local is the stamp of some express that had one terminus in

the United States or connected with some express that had, and this includes the steamship companies, or railroads, or river navigation companies between cities in the U. S. and some other point; this includes the Pacific Steam Navigation Co., Wells, Fargo & Co., Freeman & Co., etc.

Of my second general division, that of semi-governmental, there are four classes; the (1), Provincial, called by some, Governmental Locals incorrectly, for the government did not have anything to do with their issue, but they are semi-governmental from the fact that they were used in government mails, and the only writer who has given them a name that is correct, is Mr. Tiffany, who designates them as Postmaster's Stamps. Private Stamps (2) authorized by act of Congress; this may seem peculiar, but such is the history of the Pony Express of Wells, Fargo & Co. and U. S. City Despatch Post.

To quote from an act of Congress approved March 2, 1861, "The Postmaster-General is directed to run a Pony Express from New York to San Francisco, in ten days, for eight months, and twelve days for four months, carrying for the government, free of charge, five pounds of mail matter, with the privilege of issuing postage stamps and charging the public One Dollar per half-junce letter." Contract to expire July 1, 1864.

As Wells, Fargo & Co., took the contract, it will be seen that the Pony Express stamps in use prior to 1864 were authorized by law, and also the rate fixed by law.

Just here, while on the subject of these stamps, it is pertinent to notice an erroneous statement made by Mr. Wilbur W. Thomas in the April, 1887, number of the Western Philatelist, page 50, in which he says, "These stamps were never used to convey letters across the continent as many suppose." Now I, for one, do not suppose anything about it; I will say on good authority, that the letters of this post left New York via American Express, and that Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Pony Express stamps were used from St. Louis and New York to San Francisco, as well as over lines connecting with them, up to the expiration of the contract.

The stamps of the United States City Despatch Post are under a similar authority, being authorized by the Postmaster-General of the U. S. Here we have a Government Carrier Stamp, that is essentially a City Post, and in reality succeeding the New York City Despatch Post, even to copying the sign of its stamps.

Of the third class (3) of this division we have but one example, and that is in the stamps of the Metropolitan Errand and Carrier Company of New York, for the stamps of the higher values represented the fee for conveying the letter to the U. S. Post-office, also the amount paid the United States Post-office by the M. E. & C. Co. for the United States or foreign postage to any part of the globe.

This latter class (4), I admit here with much reluctance. I do not believe in private dead-letter offices, but if collectors will collect this trash, here is the place where it should be classified. The only examples of this I have noticed is the American Letter Assurance Co., of New York and the National Return Letter Association of Chicago, Ill.

Locals form as valuable a collection as any class of stamps, yet there are many who bar them out of their collection; true, the field is becoming so large that we are compelled to become specialists, but that those who collect the stamps of the United States should pass over these stamps without thought or care, is something that passes my comprehension, and after an experience of ten years in Locals as a specialty, I can only say that it is the indiscriminate counterfeiting of these Locals that has caused the general boycott to be placed upon them, but I am happy to write to-day that those who never collected them before, are awakening to the fact that if they are ever to obtain specimens they must begin now. During the past year I have had much correspondence with collectors of Locals in different parts of the country, and the only fault that I can find with them is that they are too retiring and we never hear from them in the literature of the day.

This I am pleased to say has been broken down, our Circuit Letters and the Fil of these after they have completed the circuit are preserving much valuable information.

In conclusion I would say to those that have paid but little attention to private stamps, that there is no series that will pay as well for the time expended. The research of history to ascertain their untold tales is replete with valuable information.

A Local is beyond invention, and it is not so easy to conceive one as many would have you believe. Time has put his cancellation on all and no knowledge can eradicate it, and counterfeiters but add

to the value of the original. The Local stamps claim their place among those of the U. S., and no one can omit them without marring the beauty and completeness of their collections. The Local can be protected, and the U. S. Post-office Secret Service will do it for us. We have only to prove that the parties vending Counterfeit Locals are "obtaining money under false pretenses," or that they use "U. S. Mails for fraudulent purposes," and one test case will make them very wary.

The American Philatelic Association should have one more office attached to its Counterfeit Department, and that is a Prosecutor. Other Associations have one and the laws are thus respected. And fear for the Prosecutor of the American Philatelic Association might prevent us from losing much money. I examine hundreds of these stamps sent to me from all parts of this country for inspection, and I esteem it a pleasure to weed out these vile impositions foisted upon an unsuspecting public, and I will do all in my power to damage the trade in this style of wares. On and after the first day of January, 1888, I will punch all counterfeits that shall come into my hands with a large capital C, and will take the responsibility myself. The Private Local Stamp must be protected, and I will do what I can to shield it from its worst enemy.—[The American Philatelist.]

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I have 25,000 old philatelic papers, which have been accumulating for the past ten years. Will sell 50 copies no two alike, for \$1.50, or 100 copies, no two alike for \$3.50, or 150 copies, no two alike, for \$5.50, post free. Autographs, Stamps, Coins, Indian Relics and philatelic publications, bought, sold and exchanged. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The agricultural department at Washington has sent out large quantities of the eggs of the silk worm by mail to all parts of the country. It has now been satisfactorily demonstrated that the leaf of the osage orange makes as good silk as that of the mulberry, and that the worms will feed upon it and thrive. The department is in receipt of letters from girls in various parts of the country, saying that they have made from \$20 to \$100 by raising silk in this way.—[Scientific American.]

A member of the London Zoological Society says: "I once had a cat who always sat up to the dinner table with me, and had his napkin around his neck, and his plate and some fish. When he flashed his fish, I sometimes gave him a piece of mine. One day, just as the plates were put around for the entree, puss came rushing up stairs and sprang into his chair with two mice in his mouth. Before he could be stopped he dropped a mouse on his own plate and then one on mine. He divided his dinner with me, as I had divided mine with him."—[Household Visitor.]

Mr. J. H. Houston, of Washington, D. C., is trying very hard to convict Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs of that city, of selling counterfeit stamps. We have done considerable business with Mr. Rothfuchs during the last six or eight years, and have always found him to be a perfect gentleman, strictly honest and reliable, and have always found everything we purchased of him precisely as he said it was. Mr. Rothfuchs is a prosperous cigar dealer, on Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, and it would take considerable more evidence than the statement of a jealous competitor, to make us believe that he knowingly sold a counterfeit stamp.

King Theebaw's golden chariot of state has been taken to London. It is a clumsy copy of a European model, carved, gilt and relieved with bits of glass set like precious stones. The body of the carriage is carved with an elaborate scroll border, and ornamented with panels, the outlines of which are traced with decorative glass mosaic, while in the centre is the symbolical Burmese peacock. In front stands a pair of birds like peahens, with necks intertwined, which were once surmounted by an umbrella. King Theebaw occupied the seat of this gorgeous sulky alone, with the royal umbrella over his head. There was no coachman, this latest approach to Cinderella's transmogrified pumpkin being drawn by led bullocks.

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An Oologist's Vacation.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.

(Continued.)

Naturally being early risers we were
awakened by the warm rays of the sun
entering and lighting the interior of our
tent, bringing to life a swarm of flies
that had passed the night on the ceiling
of the tent.

Remembering our task, we quickly
arose, and I soon had the oatmeal cooking
and the exhilarating smell of the frying
bacon and eggs aroused us to savage-like
hunger. As soon as the dishes were
washed, we called on a "Yankee" to bor-
row tools to open the Mound with. With
the reputed inquisitiveness of his clan, he
annoyed us with numerous questions his
excited curiosity would lead him to ask.
Finally, not wishing him, for various rea-
sons, to know our honorable mania, we
convinced him that we were going to
prospect for gold, and I have no doubt
that to this day he tells of "Them crazy
fools lookin' fer gold."

After securing the tools—a shovel and
pickaxe, or rather a grubbing-hoe, we
started for the place, distant about two
miles. Not sharing my friend's enthusi-
asm, I naturally would saunter off and ex-
plore the trees and bushes lining our way
for oological treasures.

"Come along, Norman!" "Hurry up;"
"I never saw you so slow before;" were
some of Harry's frequent ejaculations.
Not heeding these interjections, I contin-
ued to search for nests. Seeing a Wild
Gooseberry bush, I walked over to it, hop-
ing to be rewarded by finding a Brown
Thrasher's or Indigo Bunting's nest. As
I neared the place, I saw sitting motion-
less among the dead leaves, a female Wild
Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*.)

Whether I or the turkey was the more
amazed, I am unable to say, but I was
speechless at my great luck, and she,
thinking that she would not be detected,
never moved a feather while I looked at
her. Recovering my speech, however, I
shouted "Harry" at the top of my voice.
He ran hastily to see what the trouble
was, and notwithstanding his indifference,
was pleased at the lucky find.

We scared her off and counted the eggs
—twelve in all. How we should carry
them, was the perplexing question, for
the collecting box was far from being ad-
equate. We finally solved the problem by
taking a pair of overalls and tying the
end of one leg, forming a bag in which
the eggs were placed.

"I'll wager almost anything you will
not be able to blow them, Norman, for my
uncle, an old turkey hunter, says they
breed in the latter part of April," said
Harry.

"Never mind, I'll blow them, if it takes
all day for an egg. Do you know, I can
blow an egg even if the embryo can sing,"
was my optimistic answer.

Not replying to my question, he asked:
"Do you see that clump of trees?" point-
ing to a spot almost eighty rods away.
"Well, the Mound is just beyond that."
Being too old a collector to run with such
a precious cargo, I did not reach the place
until some time after Harry did. He stood
with his coat and vest off, ready for the
seige. Carefully taking out egg after
egg, I put on my overalls, and together
we were soon sweating in the trench al-
ready started. Before we spoil its shape,
I'll give its measurements, taken from
Harry's note-book.

"Position of Mound, slightly back from
the edge of second growth timber; space
for fifteen feet around the Mound, clear,
save a few straggling witch hazels.
Mound nearly elliptical in shape, extreme
length fifteen feet; highest altitude about
six feet; width about seven feet. The
ground was apparently taken from a
neighboring field, as it was different from
the surrounding sandy earth." No matter
how optimistic a person's views are, on
such occasions as these he is inclined to
be pessimistic.

"What if we don't succeed, Norman,"
said Harry, as we were resting, seated on
the freshly turned ground.

"Well, it will be a sarcastic kind of
a joke, if we don't."

"Norman, do you remember Shake-
speare's epitaph, 'Cursed be he who
moves my bones.' I wonder if any of
our primitive friends composed their epi-
taphs. I never dig a grave but what I
think of it," said Harry.

"Yes, I remember the quotation, but
let's hurry, for we are down but two
feet," I replied.

We again went to work with redoubled
energy, almost confident of success, for
it was plain to be noticed that the Mound
was not natural, or of glacial formation,
as I at first feared.

"Eureka! What's this?" excitedly asks
Harry, holding up for inspection a piece
of flint.

"It looks very much like a part of an
arrow, doesn't it?" was my reply.

Working with feverish haste, having

caught my friend's enthusiasm, we soon
came to the cranial of a human being, ap-
parently about forty years of age, judging
from the appearance of his teeth. Harry's
excitement was wonderful as we removed
bone after bone, implements and broken
pieces of pottery, and even my stoical
archaeological indifference vanished.

"What are you going to do with these
crumbling bones, Harry?"
"Oh, I'll save the best and throw the
others into the Mound."

From the Mound, which in Harry's
words was the "richest for its size he
ever heard of," we got the following ar-
ticles: Seven large pieces of pottery,
one dish or vessel being nearly perfect,
and ornamented with geometric circles,
seven quartz and flint arrow-heads, and
one celt.

Refilling the Mound which we thorough-
ly dug and redug, we started homeward,
after I had safely transferred my Turkey
eggs into the overall leg. It being my
day to cook, I compromised with Harry,
so he received the pleasant(?) task, and I
commenced to examine the eggs. The
embryo was well developed, so drilling as
large a hole as possible, I blew out all the
softer material practicable, and filled the
interior with water and unslacked lime, to
eat, or rather to soften the embryo.

By the next day, the flesh had become
so soft that I easily pulled out the pieces
with my embryo hook. By the way, if
anyone ever had a tired mouth, he can
sympathize with me, after using the blow-
pipe almost constantly for two hours.

At nine o'clock, two happy, tired col-
lectors retired to their straw beds.

(To be Continued.)

What Shall I Study First?

BY W. S. BEEKMAN.

DENSITY AND SPECIFIC GRAVITY are
terms that are confounded both in our
text-books and by teachers. They are
referred to in physics as being simply syn-
onymous for the same constant. That
they are different you will readily see by
carefully considering the following defini-
tions.

DENSITY is the comparative bulk of
equal weights.

SPECIFIC GRAVITY is the comparative
weight of equal bulks.

The **DENSITY** of a substance is the
amount of matter in a unit volume of the
substance.

The **SPECIFIC GRAVITY** of a substance
is the ratio between the weight of the sub-
stance in question, and the other sub-
stance taken as a standard for com-
parisons.

While **DENSITY** is a reality, **SPECIFIC
GRAVITY** is merely a ratio. If this be re-
membered, the clearer will be the concep-
tion of physical examinations of mineral
substances. Water is taken as the com-
mon standard for the comparison of solids
and liquids. The reasons for its being
the most available standard must be ob-
vious to every one. The specific gravity
being a ratio, must be found by a simple
mathematical problem. The method is to
divide the density of the substance by the
density of the water. The density of the
substance is obtained by some one of the
following operations.

Weigh the body in air. Weigh it while
immersed in water. Find the difference
between these two weights. Divide its
original weight, or its weight in the air,
by this difference. The answer will be
the specific gravity. As before stated the
density of a substance is the amount of
matter in a unit volume of the substance.
In our English system it is the weight in
grains of a cubic inch; in the French it is
the weight in grammes of a cubic centi-
metre. Between the grains and inches
there is no connection whatever; but, be-
tween the grammes and cubic centimetres
there is a decided connection, therefore
the same number in the French system
will give both the density and the specific
gravity.

The density of water is 252.5 grains or
1 gramme. The density of wrought iron is
1966 grains or 7788 grammes. The spec-
ific gravity will be the same number in
both systems. But the same number in
the French system denotes both its inten-
sity and specific gravity, because in that
system the cubic centimetre of water is
the unit of weight. You must evidently
see how easy it is to calculate weight
from volume in the French system. Sup-
pose you have a large plate of iron and
you are about to sell at so much a pound.
The plate is too large to conveniently
weigh, or you have not a pair of scales
ready, you can easily extricate yourself
from the dilemma by the following.

Multiply the width, thickness and
length together with the density of the
substance, in the metric system, and the
answer will be the weight, in grammes of
the body. Thus a boiler plate 1-2 cen-
timetres thick, and measuring 120 centi-
metres long by 75 centimetres wide would

.05x120x75x7788=34,046 grammes.

Find out for yourself how much a roll
of brimstone would weigh, whose density
is 2.1 grammes, whose dimensions are 8
centimetres, by 30 centimetres, by 15 cen-
timetres.

In the French system, then, the same
number expresses both the specific gravi-
ty and also the weight of one cubic centi-
metre in grammes, and since both 1000
grammes=1 kilogramme, and 1000 cubic
centimetres=1 litre, it also expresses the
weight of one litre in kilogrammes. In
taking the specific gravity of a substance
a certain amount of apparatus is neces-
sary. It may be in any one of the follow-
ing, or may consist of them all.

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Scarce and rare U. S. coins wanted. Have to ex-
change for same U. S. silver and copper coins. For
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Paul S. Bonney, Little Sioux, Iowa.

I want 5,000 old U. S. cents issued before 1820 and
for each one sent me I will give 100 foreign stamps
containing at least 20 varieties. Box 104, Hoosick
Falls, N. Y.

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top, hardened, cost \$2, used but little, will exchange
for V nickels without cents. I have a lot of maga-
zines, and will exchange for V nickels without
cents; send offers. Reference, Post Master of this
place. Willie Patterson, Box 14, Assaria, Kansas.

A fine collection of silver coins for a good col-
lection of U. S. postage and revenue stamps. I would
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Tags and curiosities for same. Recipe for copying
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osities. Correspondence solicited. James G. Mc-
Bride, Pawnee City, Neb.

63 varieties of Foreign stamps for every large U.
S. cent sent me. 100 mixed foreign for every 100
mixed U. S. stamps. C. W. Peugh, Kossuth, Ind.

A package of 50 articles for every half dime; va-
uable prize with every 3d package. H. N. Engbee,
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P. Collins, Sraford, Orange Co., Vt.

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in all parts of the world. All communications an-
swered. O. H. Givler, Naperville, Ill.

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R. R., Aspinwall, U. S. of Columbia.

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livery stamp or foreign post card except Canada.
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W. Perry, 219 Essex St., Lawrence, Mass.

A Pearl cent piece in good condition for every
U. S. or Canada 25 cent piece sent me. Two differ-
ent Peru 20 cent pieces for every U. S. or Canada
50 cent piece sent me; send stamps for postage.
Eugene Lebeuf, Jr., Fox River, Panama Railroad,
Aspinwall.

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marks etc., for every half cent in good condition. H.
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FREE! You will receive hundreds of samples, papers, catalogues, magazines, etc., free by sending 10 cents to have your name inserted in the Agents' Lightning Directory, which goes to firms all over the United States. A copy sent each name. **L. A. DITERS, Burlington Conn.** 21

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Pays for any of the following lots of coins:
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New 8 page Illustrated Catalogue, Minerals, Fossils, Sioux and Apache Buckskin Relics. 3,000 Oregon Arrow Heads. Wholesale and Retail.
L. W. STILLWELL, 21 Deadwood, D. T.

The Sickly Green Stamp.

New York, Dec., 28, 1887.

Editor Curiosity World:

Apropos of my "Plea" in your last issue, for "the old two-cent Stamp," I send the following poem which you may publish if you so desire. May its sentiments be re-echoed far over the land; and you may be assured I, for one, will not withhold my pen from pleading, until I have gained my point and we again have the red two-center to adorn the pages of our albums. Let every collector in the land, who has any degree of taste, and regard for his country, join in the one continuous cry, "Give us back the dull, warm Venetian red!"

Green as the poison ivy leaf,
Perhaps a little duller,
It fills the soul with sickly grief—
The green stamp's ghastly color.

That pale and most obnoxious stamp
With human inward grapples,
As does the colic or the cramp
That follows early apoplexy.

In this, its pale and wan disguise,
It must remain a terror,
And force on our protesting eyes
A most egregious error.

Could Washington just take a swear
At Washington thus printed,
The language he would use was never
At Monmouth even hinted.

The green-eyed monster, jealousy,
Might well be so depicted;
But he who made his country free
Should not be thus afflicted.

Bring back the useful red-brown stamp,
And give it to us quickly,
And take away this gangrened scamp,
So pale and sad and sickly.

The reddish hue gave ease to eyes;
It pleased the people vastly;
It was indeed a joy, a prize;
But this pale green is ghastly.

THOMAS COKE WATKINS.

The Empire of Annam Coins.

BY FRANKLIN.

Annam is in further India, between 8° and 23° north latitude and 105° to 109° east longitude. It consists of a strip of country 965 miles in length, and varying from 415 to 60 miles in width; area about 98,000 square miles, or a little more than half the size of France. The kingdom is divided into two parts—the northern provinces of Tonquin, in the north, and ten other provinces in the southern latitudes, with a population of twelve to thirteen million, ten million of whom belong to the Tonquin provinces.

In 234, B. C. this territory was conquered by the Chinese, who held possession of it about 500 years, when they ceased to govern it. It was infested rather than governed, by wild hordes until 1406. China re-conquered the country in 1406, but abandoned it again in 1428. In 1471, Cochinchina was completely subjected by Tonquin, but in 1553 they threw off the yoke, and until 1748 were governed by both a nominal and real sovereign, the latter being a military commander and a regent. The nominal sovereign then obtained the mastery, and ruled in the midst of anarchy till 1774, when, in the reign of Caungshung, the revolution of Yin-yao and his brothers overturned his power. Bishop Adran, a French missionary, tutor of the late King's son, obtained for him the alliance of Louis XVI., and with the aid of a few of his countrymen, was the main cause of the restoration of his pupil, Gia-long to the ancestral throne, which he mounted in 1802.

The people of Annam are made up of several races: the Annamites, the Cambodians, the Mol race, inhabiting the mountainous country, Cochinchina and Cambodia, believed by some to have been the aborigines, said to be black like the Cafres, and in a savage state, and a vast number of genuine Chinese, who think they are superior to all the above races. The climate is very hot, and the heathen need but little clothing. Their literature (Annam) is Chinese, and their only books appear to be the works of Confucius. Rice, cotton, indigo, tobacco, opium and sugar are the chief agricultural products. The coins are mostly lead and brass, similar to those of China. France has silver coins in circulation, silver 50 cent, 20 cent, and 10 cent. Obverse, Liberty seated, left arm resting on anchor, right arm holding quiver; head of Liberty is crowned with rays, République Française and date of year beneath.—Reverse, 50 cts., wreath circle. Legend.—Cochine Chine Française. Titre 0.900. Poids. 13.607 Gr. fineness and weight of metal; the 20 ct. and 10 ct. are exact counterparts. Siam has silver one dollar (worth 95 cents) and quarter, (worth 23 cents).

Gold and silver medals have been struck for strangers of rank. England has her coins also circulating there; in fact, in Annam could be gathered a fine collection of coins.

Fishes on Land.

A year or two ago Mr. Grant Allen told the readers of the Cornhill Magazine a pretty story of happening upon some migratory fishes, when he was out walking one evening, in a field somewhere in tropical America. The little fellows were "scuttling" before him, and at first, in the half light, he mistook them for certain small lizards which were common in that locality; but a nearer view proved them to be fishes,—all going in one direction, and all in a great hurry. They were really, he asserts, "genuine fish, a couple of inches long, not eel-shaped, or serpentine, in outline, but closely resembling a red mullet in miniature, though much more beautifully and delicately colored, and with fins and tails of the most orthodox spiny and prickly description." To catch them was not a very easy task, as they were active and dextrous, and by no means willing to be captured, but Mr. Allen succeeded; and on close examination, found them to be a sort of cat-fish. He describes them as pretty, well-formed, bright-eyed, and instead of being covered with scales, with bodies "armed all over like the armadillos with a continuous coat of hard and horny mail," formed of a "toughened skin like that of alligators, arranged in two overlapping rows of imbricated shields, exactly like the round tiles so common on the roofs of Italian cottages."

Their gate was ungraceful, which one can readily believe, as a single pair of stiff spines, just behind the head, are their only substitutes for legs, while the body and tail give their aid in the onward motion by a sort of wriggling, worm-like movement. There was a large body of these little creatures, whose scientific name is *Callichthys*. They numbered, perhaps, thousands, and were moving in a very straight line across the country, quite as if they were well accustomed to this overland manner of travelling, and possibly it was not their first experience of it. There are several other kinds of fish, inhabiting ponds in the hot countries of America, which, like the *Callichthys*, journey about the land. They belong to groups which have no connection apart from this peculiar habit; but the necessity of providing a new home, when their old one becomes uninhabitable from long continued drought, has induced a common resort to this almost incredible expedient.

A certain Brazilian fish, a species of *Doras*, makes, I think, the longest journey of any known. These *Doras* will sometimes spend several days and nights in a single flitting, and travel in such numbers that the natives of the country gather them up in baskets, thus providing for their family larders, by taking what seems to be an altogether unfair advantage of the abnormal plight of the poor fish. The *Doras* move by raising themselves slightly upon their bony pectoral fins, while at the same time an elastic motion of the tail pushes them forward, and they manage to get over the ground nearly as fast as a man can walk. The Indians claim that they have in their bodies a reservoir, in which they carry sufficient water to keep the gills in a moist condition during these journeyings.

Many kinds of fish build nests in the water for the protection of their eggs, but the *Doras* make theirs upon the beach. This they do at the beginning of the rainy season. The nest is formed very nearly like that of a bird, and is built of dry leaves, which the little creature goes inland to fetch. When it is finished the eggs are deposited within: and these small fish-parents cover up their embryo offsprings most carefully, and watch over them with great solicitude. The common eel is known to have a similar habit of moving about upon the land, and will even live for several days out of water. When an eel is drawn from the water and laid upon the earth, it at once puffs out its cheeks in a very noticeable manner. These cheeks are formed of distensible pouches, or sacs, covering the gills, which the eel fills with water in order that the gill-fibrils may be kept moist, by which means he is enabled to remain upon the dry land for a considerable time without coming to serious harm. So when the pond where the eel makes his home begins to get dry, he takes in a good supply of water, and starts off to find another; moving like a snake in an apparently sinuous course, but really in a surprisingly straight line, for the piece of water he wishes to reach, whose direction he seems by some curious instinct to know.

The *Anabas scandens*, or climbing perch of India, is, perhaps, the most celebrated

of any fish which voluntarily comes on shore, as he certainly is the most accomplished in terrestrial feats. He is a little fellow, very little like a perch in general form, with large scales, and spiny dorsal fin, and is to be found in rivers and ponds in most parts of the East Indies. When the waters which he inhabits seem in danger of being dried up, he leaves them and travels off in search of others. Though he prefers to make these journeys at night or in the early morning while the dew still lies upon the grass, he often travels by day, and has even been met toiling along a hot, dusty, gravel road under the full glare of an Indian mid-day sun. It is, however, for his climbing powers that this extraordinary fish is famed above all others that frequent the land. By the aid of his spiny gill-covers and tail fin, which he pushes into the crevices in their bark, he manages to climb trees, even tall palm trees. That he does it awkwardly is true, moving somewhat after the manner of a measuring or looping caterpillar; but the fact that he can accomplish it at all is as marvellous, as his object in attempting the feat is inexplicable. Boatmen upon the Ganges, and other rivers where these climbing perch abound, catch them and put them into earthen pots; keep them alive without any water, often for as many as six days, killing them as they wish to use them; and find them during the whole time as lively as when newly caught.

The common perch of our own waters, while unable to climb trees, or even to walk about the fields, is possessed of great tenacity of life after being taken from the water. When given a blanket of wet moss, it can be carried in apparent comfort for long distances; and in some parts of Europe, the fishermen will offer their perch for sale during the day, and if not successful in disposing of them, will replace them at night in the ponds from which they were taken in the morning, seemingly none the worse for their outing. —[The Swiss Cross.

U. S. Envelopes and High Prices.

In reading this article, signed by Mr. J. J. Casey, in the November number of the Stamp Collectors' Figaro, I consider it my duty to make a few explanations to the members of the A. P. A., and to all collectors interested in it. There are very few members yet in the A. P. A., who collect entire envelopes, and those that do not, cannot form an opinion as to the real value and purpose of Mr. Casey's article.

Let us look at the facts, Mr. Casey: There are four dealers (I must say respectably known to me) who formed a pool, ordered envelopes, which were offered by the P. O. department in certain quantities, and therefore were open to all, at least at the time being. Now those dealers agreed on a price, which you and I call exorbitant,—nevertheless I paid the same.

These are the bare facts in the case, but your article tries to represent the matter in a light to suit you, but which does not exist. It is very kind of you to take care of the collectors' interests, but have you not found out yet that collectors of entire envelopes are nearly all men, who are able to look out for themselves, and for their pocket-books? Your own experience, be it in private or in auction sales, must have proven you that, long ago. The second question is: are the A. P. A., members, for whom you show such a marked interest, really bound to buy those envelopes? I think not, more than any other collector.

Now we come to the question: shall these envelopes be collected as authorized issues? Most decidedly so. Not only can they be used for postal purposes, but are not 2 cents Jackson die D, and 3 cent die C, collected, without being special issues, or were not the 2 cent so-called Kellogg die issued on numbers 7 and 8, without ever appearing on the P. O. department's schedule? All these are recognized by advanced collectors, and to them there is no doubt of the collectibility of these high values. The only difference of opinion remains in their value, and this point each collector will settle for himself. All of us know that high prices have been paid for U. S. envelopes, which were never seen otherwise than with "specimen" on, and it will always remain with the collector's own ideas in this matter, and with his pocket-book, what he will accept in his collection, and what not.

Mr. Casey feels confident to be able to get these envelopes at schedule rates, if so, I am willing to subscribe for ten sets, and I hope he will not only be successful, but will also find many more willing to

subscribe. Your article, Mr. Casey, was of course, prompted by some reason or other, but please do not take us collectors to be fools who allow ourselves to be robbed, as you term it, in such an easy way.
HENRY CLOTZ.

Aboriginal California Mint.

In the vicinity of Santa Barbara, fifty years ago there existed the original (or aboriginal) Mint of California. The Indians of Tulare county generally visited it once a year, in bands of twenty or thirty, male and female, on foot, armed with bows and arrows. They brought with them pan-cho, or thick sugar, made from what is now called honey-dew, from the sweet Carisa cane, put up into small oblong sacks made of grass and swamp flags; also nut pipes, and wild tobacco, pounded and mixed with lime; the preparation of native tobacco was called *pispepet*, and used for chewing. These commodities were exchanged for a species of money from the Indian Mint of the Santa Barbara rancherías, called by them "ponya." This "pony" money consisted of pieces of shell, rounded, with a hole in the middle, made from the hardest part of the small, edible, white muscle of the beaches, which was brought in canoes by the barbarians from the island of Santa Rosa. The worth of a rial was put on a string which passed twice and a half around the hand, from the end of the middle finger to the wrist. Eight of these strings passed for the value of a silver dollar. —[Science Observer.

25 named Minerals, 10c. Eggs at cost. Lists free.
A. N. Fuller, Lawrence, Kansas. (21)

A RUBY Magic Lantern with 75 views, \$1.15 C.
C. Everett, 7 Sachem St., Lynn, Mass.
CAPILLA The Great Hair Restorer! By Mail.
\$1. Dr. R. Boyle, 1432 N. 2nd St., Philadelphia, Pa. *31

SEND for a "FREE" sample copy of the Midget, a bright monthly. J. G. Meacham, 745 College Ave., Racine, Wis. 21.

FINE Indian Arrow heads at 10 cents each or 3 for 25 cents. C. A. Musselman, 925 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa. 21.

A FULL nickel pair of Eureka Club Skates, size 10 1-2, in A condition, \$1.50 J. W. Halsey, Montclair, N. J. 21.

10 CENTS pays for 136 good foreign stamps, Spain, etc., and others rare. E. P. Newcomer, Ida Grove, Iowa. *23.

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Birds Eggs. Specimens and Supplies. Largest stock, lowest price. New 20p. cat. 2c. Frank H. Lattin, Albion, N. Y.

APPROVAL SHEETS at 50 per cent commission; fine class genuine stamps. Send reference and stamp. Lloyd & Co., 272 Adams St., St. Louis, Mo. 23.

COINS: 10 Foreign, 25c; 4 United States Half cents, 25c; Set of Confederate Bills, 50c to \$500, 75c; Pocket Manual, 10c; List free. Geo. J. Bauer, 73 Front St., Rochester, N. Y. r20-31

TAKE NOTICE STAMP AGENTS! Send us three cents in stamps for approval sheets of stamps to sell at a good commission. Prizes given. YALE STAMP CO., New Haven, Conn. *24

I buy, sell and exchange **BIRD'S EGGS.** Send 2 cents for 16 page catalogue of specimens and supplies. T. Vernon Wilson, Austin, Ill. *21

FOREIGN STAMPS: 110 var., 12 cents. 500 mixed, 14c; 21 var., Heligoland, 45c; Forest City Album, (2,000 spaces,) 25 cents. S. E. Russell, Hinsdale, Ills. 21

WE ARE SELLING extra nice Diaries for 1888 at 15c. each. Also fine tablets of 150 pages, 60 each, 2 for 15c. Send us a trial order. J. Henry Jones, box 66 Townsendville, Seneca Co., N. Y. 21

INDIAN RELICS! This fine lot of Relics, Axe, 1 cent, 1 spear head, 3 arrow heads, 1 war point and 1 piece of pottery, sent by express for \$2.00. Arrow heads, 60 cents per dozen, postpaid. Address G. U. DUER, Millersburg, Ohio. 21

MISSOURI COLLECTOR! 15 cents per year, guaranteed 12 numbers. Adv. rates, 50 cents per inch. Circulation, 2,000. Sample copy, 1 cent. H. C. Beardsley, 422 North 7th St., St. Joseph, Mo. 21

6 VARIETIES of Dutch East Indies, 6 cents. Our Golden packet contains 50 varieties of stamps from U. S. (Locals) Chili, Canada, Greece, Heligoland, Monaco, Porto Rico, etc., 1,000 foreign, 22c; postage extra on all orders under 25 cts. Quaker City Stamp Co., Whitehall, Phila., Pa. 21



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CHAS. STEIGERWALT,
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H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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A Cross opposite this notice signifies that your subscription has expired. We should be pleased to have you renew.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H., as Second Class Matter.

FEBRUARY 1, 1888.

Some of our contemporaries are agitating the idea of a Stamp Dealers' Protective Association. The following from No. 7, (August and September 1885 issue) of the "Empire State Philatelist" will show it has been tried before:

Editor Empire State Philatelist:

"Would it not be a good idea for the Stamp dealers and publishers of Philatelic Journals to organize and maintain a Philatelic Protective Association? It is a true saying that there are black sheep in every flock and I believe Philately has its full share. If one member got 'stuck' he could immediately notify the other members, thereby saving them from loss.

My idea is this: Have some stamp dealer, or, better still, the publisher of some Philatelic Journal for general manager—no necessity for President, Secretary or Treasurer, as one man can do better alone. Allow any dealer, publisher or collector, with a good reputation to become a member upon the payment of \$1.00 to the manager, and the agreement to promptly report all bad bills and transactions, giving full particulars, to the general manager. The duties of this manager would be: To write a reported party, enclosing a *fac simile* of the letter received from the complainant, and request an immediate settlement. If successful, he shall return the stamps or cash to their rightful owner, deducting a fair price for his time and expense. If unsuccessful, he shall have slips printed saying 'Beware of—' (giving address in full) we have reason to believe this a swindler" over the signature of the manager, and send each member a copy in an unsealed envelope. He shall also keep a correct record of all association money he receives and pays out, also a roll of the members. When the cash in the hands of the manager dwindles down to \$5.00 he shall assess each member \$1, at the same time sending a statement of the financial affairs of the association. If a member fails to pay his assessment within thirty days of the issue of the same, his name shall be stricken from the roll and he shall be debarred from all benefits until it is paid. At the end of thirty days a printed list of members in good standing shall be sent each member, in an unsealed envelope. The manager shall have no salary other than he shall not have any assessment to pay, and shall be allowed to enclose any of his circulars when sending out an official notice, if he desires. The term of office of the General Manager shall be one year. Thirty days before the expiration of his term, he shall notify each member to send his vote for his successor to a dealer or publisher whom he shall select. This person will count the votes, forward them to the manager who will again count them and forward them to his successor, with a statement of the finances and balance of cash in his hands. In case the manager desires to resign before his term expires, his successor shall be elected in the same manner.

I think with a membership of twenty-five, it would not cost over \$1 each, per year, and of course the larger the roll, the better. I, for one, am desirous of seeing the thing tried, and I will gladly pay \$1. or \$5 if need be, for the sake of being posted. If a man saves being stuck only once in a year, it is a good investment. A dealer who sends stamps on approval should require them to be returned within two weeks. If not returned in that time he should write for them, and if not successful he should write again in a week.

If he still receives no reply, write once more, and if in one week this "last" letter receives no reply, write the particulars to the manager, who will look out for the rest of it. I don't want an honest party accused, but I do want every rascal known as such. All envelopes containing stamps should have the sender's address plainly printed thereon, and a printed envelope should be enclosed. Then there is no chance for the old excuse, "must have been lost in the mails."

JOHN M. HUBBARD.

A few dealers and publishers responded, and only a few. Mr. Mekeel evidently expressed the idea of the majority, when he said "It looks very well on paper, but will not work," or words to that effect. The simple reason why it would not work was because the dealers would not take hold of it. A Dealers' Protective Association properly supported and managed would be a great benefit to its members, and we are in for it, every time. Keep agitating the matter, and we may yet have a flourishing Association.

This is one page of the Gem and World Stamp Albums. The Gem holds 600 stamps; price, 11 cents; the World holds 2,540 stamps; price 28 cents. Address J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.



Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Stamps, 1886 issue, 4 varieties, complete, 10 cents, post free. Address J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The "International Philatelic Advertiser" has been changed to magazine form. It is an improvement, according to our way of thinking.

Geo. W. Von Utassy will call his paper the "Philadelphia Philatelist" instead of the "Germantown Philatelist," which he at first intended.

Mr. Anton T. Dworak of Lincoln, Neb., is about to publish the "Collectors' Hand Book." It will contain 50 pages devoted to Philately, Numismatics, etc.

The "Collector's Illustrated Magazine" is the name of a new magazine published by E. M. Haight, Riverside, Cal. No. 1 is well printed, and its contents are excellent.

We have purchased all the remaining copies of the American Philatelic Record, of the publishers. We can furnish No. 1, post free, for 11 cts., and No. 2 for 6 cts., each, post free. J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Mr. Calvert has at last been heard from. The "Empire State Philatelist" was not dead, but simply enjoying a six month's nap. The paper is now called the "Manhattan Journal," and is to be published every two weeks. The form has been changed to 8 pages, 3 columns to the page.

Philatelic Frauds, 40 pages, (published by Simmons, 1883,) 15 cents; Black List, 12 pages, (published by Hubbard, 1886,) 11 cents; Coffin's Directory of Philatelic Frauds, 1887, 12 pages, 11 cents, or the three books for 25 cents, postpaid. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Wilcomb & Co., have just purchased a fine lot of Indian Relics, stuffed birds, eggs, etc., at a price that made us smile when they told us the amount. As this is outside of their regular business, Messrs. Wilcomb & Co. will give collectors a chance to secure some very fine specimens for very little money, and all in search of bargains in this line should read their advertisement on the first page.

Mr. S. B. Bradt, of Chicago, Ill., has favored us with a copy of the "Bluffton Stamp Society: A Story for Young Stamp Collectors," by Philo. It contains 80 pages, well printed and bound in cloth, with gilt side-stamp, and makes a very attractive volume. The story is quite interesting and every stamp collector should obtain a copy. Price, 50 cents. Address S. B. Bradt, Room 52, 225 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

One hundred match, medicine, playing card or any kind of U. S. revenue stamps, pays for this paper one year,—24 numbers.

Anyone in want of a \$1,000 collection of Indian Relics could do well to correspond with Dr. G. L. McKown, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. He has a splendid collection for sale.

For 200 square cut envelope stamps, we will send the CURIOSITY WORLD 3 months,—6 numbers—or a Gem stamp album, containing space for 600 stamps; or, for 400, we will send both.

Now is the time to subscribe to the WORLD. Only 25 cents—or 500 square cut envelope stamps—pays for this paper until Jan. 1, 1889—21 numbers.

W. S. Beekman of West Medford, Mass., sent us a fine specimen of "Moonstone" a few days since. Mr. Beekman has a splendid stock of Minerals, and all in want of anything in his line would do well to obtain his price list.

3 Indian Arrow Heads, (flint,) 1 Arrow Head, (quartz), 1 War Point, (flint), 1 Spear Head and one Net Sinkers, all in perfect condition and the "Curiosity World," one year, (24 numbers,) all post paid, for only 85 cents. J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Thomas Coke Watkins of New York City, has in preparation, and will soon publish a collection of Philatelic poems, that have appeared within the past twenty years. It will undoubtedly be first class in every respect, as Mr. Watkins never does anything by halves.

Anyone buying any of the goods offered for sale by J. M. Hubbard, to the value of 50 cents, at one time, and mentioning that he saw this notice, will receive the next twelve numbers of this paper, free! If goods to the value of \$1.00 are bought at one time, the next 24 numbers of the paper will be given.

Mr. Casey's 14th Auction Sale, the Suffolk Collection of Stamps realized \$1,525. The Reay set of "Specimen" envelopes brought \$47.90. Lot 994 Colonial Stamp, \$20.00. Unused set of Executive Department, \$7.50. Spain, 1852, 2r, \$16.00. The prices realized were in some cases above catalogue quotations. Mr. Casey had booked nearly 3,000 bids before the sale.

I have 25,000 old philatelic papers, which have been accumulating for the past ten years. Will sell 50 copies no two alike, for \$1.50, or 100 copies, no two alike for \$3.50, or 150 copies, no two alike, for \$5.50, post free. Autographs, Stamps, Coins, Indian Relics and philatelic publications, bought, sold and exchanged. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Pennsylvania has more post offices than any other state in the Union,—871 more than in New York.

For 2000 mixed United States or foreign stamps, we will send this paper one year,—24 numbers.

We will give a new GEM stamp album containing space for 600 stamps, for only 200 square cut envelope stamps. See adv.

We have received No. 1, of the "Semi-Annual Stamp Collector," published by James Walter Jones, of Schenectady, N. Y. It strikes us that 15 cents per copy is a pretty big price for a 1 cent paper.

It is said that fish dealers in China keep their stock swimming in tanks of water. If a customer wants only a part of a fish, it is taken from the tank and enough cut from it to supply his wants, and then the remainder of the live fish is thrown back into the water, there to suffer until it dies.

If the gentleman who sent us \$1.00 in payment for a two inch adv., about Jan. 16th, will send us his address, we will print his advertisement. We should also like to know the street and number of E. P. Lea, Toronto, Canada. We sent him some stamps which he ordered, and the letter, after laying in the Toronto office 30 days, came back to us.

The collection of the Museum of Natural History, in Paris, has been enriched by the addition of a curious lizard, brought from New Holland as a present to M. Conrad Baer. It inhabits trees, and has two air-tight curtains or membranes, one on each side of the neck, which it expands at will, and thus supports itself in its aerial leaps from branch to branch.

We have just issued the Stamp Dealers of the World, containing the address of over 600 stamp dealers in all parts of the world. The list is as complete as is possible to make it and contains 29 pages and cover and is very valuable to both dealer and collector. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three for 27 cents. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

There was a large sale of Jacobite manuscripts at Edinburgh recently. The highest price was £11 12s., which was paid for the original proclamation issued by Prince Charles Edward at Dalkeith in 1745. A proclamation of Oliver Cromwell, "given at Dunbar in 1650," brought £5 10s., and £9 was given for the "Oath of Allegiance" to James VII, signed in 1715 by Balmerino, Cluny Macpherson and six other chiefs. After the Jacobite papers had been sold, a number of letters written by Sir Walter Scott, to his agent, Mr. Ferrier, were offered, and they realized high prices.

KINDLY

Give our packets a trial. We think they will please you. List free. Our approval sheets are unsurpassed in quality and stamps are marked very low. 33 1-3 per cent com. Agents wanted.

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Each packet contains 12 varieties, the retail price of which is 15 to 25 cents. These packets are non-duplicate, and purchasers of the entire series will get 144 Foreign Stamps, all different. Price 5 cents each, 6 for 25 cents; 12 for 50 cents.

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Each packet contains 20 varieties, the retail price of which is 25 to 50 cents. These packets are non-duplicate, and purchasers of the entire series will get 240 varieties of Stamps.

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18. Contains Stamps from Hong Kong, Dutch E. Indies, Mexico, etc.
19. Contains Stamps from Peru, Roman States, Belgium, Ger., any, etc.
20. Contains Stamps from Sandwich Islands, Spain (old), Saxony, Denmark, etc.
21. Contains Stamps from Japan, French Colonies, St. Settlements, Swiss.
22. Contains Stamps from Bulgaria, Turkey, Wurtemberg, Holland, etc.
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24. Contains Stamps from Heligoland, Gt. Britain, Victoria, N. S. Wales, etc.

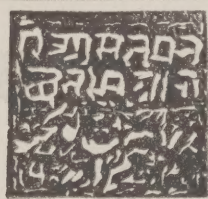
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100 VARIETIES of foreign stamps, including many South and Central American for every U. S. or Canada 25 cent piece, 15c, 10c, 5c, 2c, 1c. Eugene Lebeuf, Jr., Fox River Shops, Panama R. R., Aspinwall, Pa.

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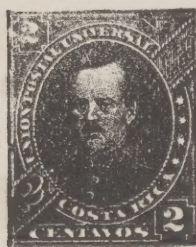
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Read the following carefully:

CAT'S EYE, India, \$.75
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net, cut, \$3.00 Red Garnet, \$1.00
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RARE! CHOICE!! FINE!!!
A vast assortment of minerals in
SINGLE SPECIMENS or by the QUANTITY.
AT SAME REDUCTION IN PRICES.
*The GEM CABINET of four drawers
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FOREIGN STAMP COLLECTORS' NEWS, Vol. I, complete, published in England in 1883-84. Over 100 pages, bound in cloth, with gilt side stamp. Price \$1.

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WISH TO BUY large or small collections of Stamp Coins, Indian Relics, etc., for spot cash.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

An Oologist's Vacation.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.

(Continued.)

Living on the lilled and bulrush shores of such a remarkable lake, naturally the teachings of the venerable Isaac Walton would arise before our minds.

"Norman, let's get up before sunrise and go fishing for black-bass," said Harry one evening before retiring.

"Well, I am agreeable," I replied. "What do you think would be the best way to go, you are such a devout angler," was his complimentary answer.

"Well, I'll tell you my favorite method and if you like it we will try it,—put on an old pair of pants, strap up your shirt with a belt, then, minus shoes, wade through the rushes with a long "cane" pole, having a short line baited with a small sized frog suspended from three hooks. If we take the end of our trolling lines they will answer, and save us the trouble of joining the hooks."

"I believe we had better try your way, but what is the reason you have three hooks, wont one do as well?" was Harry's reply, as he got down his fancy tackle box, kept with old maid-like neatness.

"Why, you see we put only one hook through the frog's head, and when the bass jumps for it, he is much more liable to be struck or caught on three hooks than one," was my rejoinder.

"A capital idea! But doesn't it hurt the frog to be tortured so? I believe I'll kill mine first."

"It doesn't hurt them very much for they have no nervous system. But you don't want to kill your frog, because when dead they invariably turn on their backs when cast, and present a very unnatural appearance to the wary fish; besides more weeds are caught on the hooks, for the frog strives to clear himself of them when alive."

"Well, if you will get the frogs, Norman, I'll get the grub and angle-worms."

"All right." So we separated; Harry going to a neighboring farm house for the bait, and I to the ditches for frogs. Somehow, Harry's willingness in going to the farmhouse caused me to wonder, until I finally found that the reason was that there was a pretty black-eyed lassie there, and if any of our readers think I imposed on Harry by having him obtain supplies from there, they are in error, for the task was self-imposed.

The next morning, an hour before sunrise, we entered the water near the bulrushes, each of us carrying two frogs in a bottle strung to our waists and a stout line to string our victims with. We waded cautiously along, dropping the frogs wherever we found an opening in the dense rushes. It is truly strange how active a dull imagination becomes when one is wading in water knee deep in such a place. Once he thinks he is perhaps standing on the back of some mammoth "Snapper;" or he feels the cold, slimy body of a snake glide slowly by him; or again he is sure he is standing on a muskrat; but these shocks are nothing to the enticing and fascinating sport one is sure to have under favorable circumstances.

I was rewarded with the first bite, just as I was about to drop the frog near a bunch of lily leaves, when a monster black bass sprang at the frog but missed it. Hastily throwing the frog where the bass disappeared, I was rewarded with a "strike" that would have caused a novice to drop his pole and run.

"Gracious, Norman, what was that?" asked Harry, pulling his revolver.

"It's a bite, and I am only letting him play. Hold the pole for me," was my answer. Hurrying to where the line indicated, I soon had the fish in my hand.

The sport's pleasure in tiring out a fish would never work here, for the fish by twisting the line around a clump of rushes, would, owing to the short line, easily pull the hook from its mouth, on account of the inelasticity of the short cord.

"My! Isn't it a whooper? It will weigh about six pounds, wont it?"

"It will weigh about five pounds," was my answer.

"Did you ever hear the expression 'bit like a bass,' Norman? That was a remarkable illustration of it anyway."

Tying the fish to the string provided, I dropped the fish into the water, and we proceeded onward. We fished until ten o'clock, with good success, Harry having caught three bass and myself two.

"We'll go a little further and then quit, I guess, Harry. It's getting too warm; they don't bite very well toward noon."

Throwing my line near a deserted muskrat house, hardly expecting a bite, a fish about four feet long sprang for the frog. The bite was so sudden and unexpected that the pole was jerked from my hands. I jumped for it as it glided through the rushes, but as soon as I commenced to pull, the line broke, notwithstanding the fact that Harry fired three

shots at the fish, so we were unable to get it.

"I wish we could have caught that one, Norman, I believe it was as large as all the rest."

"So do I, but there's no use crying over spilt milk. It makes one feel light and airy though to lose his best bites."

Going home, we fried one of the smaller fish for dinner, and then taking our other poles we went "still" fishing, that is, anchored and fished. As the fish were not biting very well, at Harry's suggestion, we drifted, each of us having two lines dangling from the boat. In this manner we caught probably fifty silver bass, by the time we reached the shores of the lake. Rowing back, we tried drifting again, so by the time we got back we had eighty-three fish. Rowing across the lake to the station, we packed seventy-five silver bass and three black bass in ice and sent them to our employer by the evening express, with orders to have them delivered at once.

They were received the same evening, and Mr. Ford flattered us not a little on our successful angling.

(To be Continued.)

What Shall I Study First?

BY W. S. BEEKMAN.

Hydrometers though varying to a great extent in style, depend upon the same principle and give the same conclusions from their use. For liquids a special kind of areometers are in constant use and give their results according to the depth to which they will sink when immersed in the liquids. Many scales have been arbitrarily formed and brought into commercial use, but they are misleading and are to be avoided when possible. Only those hydrometers should be used that indicate the true specific gravity. The one mostly used and almost universally known, is the Baume Hydrometer and scale. The instrument is simply a glass tube loaded at the bottom with mercury or small shot, with a small bulb blown just above the loaded end. It was graduated in the following arbitrary manner, and thus in not being scientific, at the outset much confusion has been established that will be difficult to entirely overcome, as the perfected specific gravity scale gradually takes the place of the long used Baume.

The glass tube was loaded with mercury so that it would very nearly sink to the top of the tube when placed in water, and this point was marked 0. The instrument was then placed in a 15 per cent solution of salt, and the point at which this rested was marked 15. The intervening space was then divided into fifteen equal parts, and the space below was similarly marked off. Each one of these divisions represents a degree. For liquids lighter than water the tube was loaded so that the bulb just sank in a ten per cent solution of salt, and this was marked 0. The hydrometer is then transferred to water and the point at which it floats is marked 10° and the space between equally divided into 10 spaces and also the place above the 10° mark.

Alcoholometers, Saccharometers, etc., are, as their names indicate, used separately for those special substances.

Tralles', Cartier's, Gay's, Lussac's, Sikes', Jones', Dica's, Twaddell's, Beck's and Zanetti's hydrometers are all more or less quoted in the different technical works. Twaddell's is perhaps quoted as often as any of them, and its specialty is that its divisions are so regulated that the number multiplied by five added to 1,000 gives the true specific gravity. The above hydrometers are classed together as those in which the weight remains constant but the point of immersion varies.

We now come to those in which the point of immersion is constant but the weights differ. It was first described by Boyle in 1675, but is called the Fahrenheit's Hydrometer, and this hydrometer by one little improvement has given rise to the well known Nicholson's Hydrometer. This hydrometer is perhaps the easiest to obtain and the simplest to manipulate, besides being well adapted to the use of the young mineralogist.

A cylindrical piece of tin is capped at each end by conical points; at one end, which is to be the top, a stout wire with a cap on the end is soldered. To the lower end there are hooked two conical cups, with their apexes so joined together as to resemble an hour glass. This cup is loaded so that the whole tin is immersed in the water. The weight of 1000 grains in the top pan now sinks the instrument up to a mark on the wire stem. To take the gravity of a mineral, a piece weighing about an ounce is placed in empty pan and weights are added until the instrument sinks to the mark to which it sank when the thousand grains were on the pan. We will say you have to add 400 grains, then your mineral must weigh the difference between the 400 grains and the 1000

grains which is necessary to sink the instrument to the mark. The mineral weighs 600 grains. It is now placed in the hour-glass shaped cup at the bottom and immersed with it in the water. Weights are now added to the top pan until the same mark as before is reached. On now counting up the weights, you may now find that the 450 grains was necessary, instead of 400, when the mineral was in the upper pan. It has lost 50 grains. By dividing what it weighed in the air by what it loses in the water and the answer is the specific gravity. Thus 400 in the air—350 in the water gives a loss of 50 grains in the water—and this 50 in 400=8, which is the specific gravity of the mineral. This operation does not take five minutes and is one that every student should practice on every new specimen, not only on minerals but on coins, butter, wax, lard and many ordinary things.

Sometime ago I had a few of these hydrometers made for a class, and can send one to any who desire, at the cost of making which was 55 cents. But as the student is rarely equipped with a pair of good ballances, the use of a specific gravity bottle is rarely convenient.

The Nicholson Hydrometer will take the gravity of solids higher than water, if the solid is placed in the apex of the lowest cone. This will prevent its rising when immersed in the water. A piece of camphor is a convenient substance to practice for substances lighter than water.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

This Department will be discontinued after our next issue, therefore no more Exchanges notices will be received. Those who have paid for more insertions will find their notices among the ads.

For 200 square-cent envelope stamps I will give a brand new Gem stamp album containing space for 600 stamps. John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Coins, books, eggs and skates; have eggs of 355, 413, 438, 505, 578 and 663 to exchange for Sea Shells, stone implements and curiosities. F. M. Kline, 243 Fourth Ave., S. Minneapolis, Minn.

Colonial coppers of Massachusetts, New York, and American half cents for very good to fine American Cents. M. Jenkins, Rensselaerville, New York.

I have David's new Key, Oologist's Directory, Oologist's Handbook, all new, telegraph sounder, eggs, minerals, etc. for coins, stamps and eggs. Chas. P. Collins, Stratford, Orange Co., Vt.

Exchange desired with stamp and coin collectors in all parts of the world. All communications answered. O. H. Givler, Naperville, Ill.

I will give a U. S. of Columbia 50 cent piece in fine condition for every U. S. or Canada 50 cent piece made before 1875, with 5 cent stamp for postage. Eugene Lebeuf, Jr., Fox River Shops, care Panama R. R., Aspinwall, U. S. of Columbia.

Document, match, medicine, adhesives, rare foreign stamps, and unused and entire foreign post cards to exchange for revenues. W. H. Danforth, Worcester, Mass.

Five silver and bronze coins of the twelve Caesars wanted for cash or exchange. Send impressions stamped envelopes or for U. S. stamps. James H. C. J. Verconter, 80 E. Superior St., Chicago, Ill. 27

A fine pair of worsted ties, elegantly trimmed with silver fringe, spangles and stars, for a good repeating rifle or Colt's revolver, 41 calibre. Joseph Shoffer, Box 209, Newton, Iowa.

Scarce postmarks all west of Pennsylvania, for War envelopes with flags or portraits on, old U. S. stamps, and American half cents for very good to fine American Cents. M. Jenkins, Rensselaerville, New York.

Curiosities, Fossils, Relics, etc., for Indian Relics; send list and receive mine. Louis E. Hudson, Ellensburg, Jeff Co., N. Y.

90 rare U. S. and Foreign stamps for U. S. not in my collection; send list and I will send mine. Chas. W. Pearl, 210 Essex St., Lawrence, Mass.

A Peru 20 cent piece in good condition for every U. S. or Canada 25 cent piece sent me. Two different Peru 20 cent pieces for every U. S. or Canada 50 cent piece sent me; send stamps for postage. Eugene Lebeuf, Jr., Fox River, Panama Railroad, Aspinwall.

For a perfect arrow head I will give 10 varieties Foreign or obsolete American stamps, or 25 for every 5 match or medicine stamps. John H. An, Ontario, Ohio.

Sea curiosities, urchins, corals, shells, etc., from West Indies. Books, 200 coppers and about 50 var. minerals to exchange for books. E. T. Oberholzer, Box 212, Lansdale, Pa.

1,000 stamps—Foreign and U. S.—for others not in my collection. E. E. Linderholm, Box 319, Lind-sborg, Kansas.

Ten varieties of foreign stamps for every stamp not in my collection; stamp, amateur and miscellaneous papers for stamps; send sheets or lists. John R. Keech, 49 Cannon St., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Arrow heads from Ohio for gray stone arrow and spears from Illinois; a second-hand melodian in good condition for Indian or war relics valued at \$15. Joshua Arter, Crestline Ohio.

Gold filled watch, violin and case, guitar and a large list of miscellaneous articles for job printing. I want 6x9 circulars printed on both sides. L. M. Edwards, L. Box 23, Knightstown, Ind.

For any two dimes of the years 1824, 1862, 1865, 1866, 1867 or 1868, I will give a fine dime of 1823 and 1834. M. L. Curt, 307 W. 8th St., Cincinnati, O.

A live Snowy Owl or one in the meat for books on Natural History and Naturalists supplies. Birds' eggs, in sets or singly, for correctly labelled minerals fossils, shells, sea curiosities, mounted insects, plants, Marine Algere etc. E. S. Cheney, Huron, Dakota.

Artist's outfit for coloring photographs with directions for coloring. Oologist's collecting outfit; Books on Ornithology and Oology, or best offer in first class birds' eggs. Eggs to exchange for the same. C. E. Cray, 309 High St., Davenport, Iowa.

Tags, stamps, postmarks, and first-class eggs with data. Burtis H. Wilson, 2,023 Rock Island St., Davenport, Iowa.

A pair of nickel-plated Eureka club skates, size 9 1/2, cost \$4.50, used but little, for American silver coins. Lee A. Dwell, 336 Hyon Ave., Sandusky, Ohio.

25 postmarks for every specific delivery stamp or stamped envelope sent me. P. F. O'Keefe, Mansfield Valley, Pa.

Skulls of wolf, fox, wild cat, mink, muskrat, loon, hawk, owl and several others, for coins or Indian relics. Write first. D. A. Kinney, Waseca, Minn.

FOR SALE A rare collection of Mound Builders' Relics, 200 specimens, (only 25 rare Arrow and Spear points) all fine and perfect. Also 50 fine Sioux Relics, a fine assortment. For particulars address with stamp, Dr. G. E. McKown, Box 606, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

STICK?

Guess you would think they did. What? Why our stamp adhesives. They are gummed, ready for use. 6c per 500, 10c per 1,000. An unused Borneo stamp with every package. If you mention "Curiosity World." **AMERICAN STAMP CO.,** West Winsted, Conn.

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A rare Mexican official with every order. We beat them all? Compare our prices! 5 Hayti, 7c; 12 Mexico, 14c; 8 Bulgaria, 15c; 5 Honduras, 15c; "U. S. Wonder" 25 var Bosnia, Cyprus, Hayti, Ceylon, etc., 10c; "U. S. Prize" 20 fine stamps, Persia, Bolivia, Siam, Iceland etc., only 25c; Send Reference for sheet at 25 per cent. New 1st free. C. E. Fraser & Co., 363 Bergen Ave, Jersey City, N. J.

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In schools etc., to sell stamps from sheets at

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Our sheets can not be equalled in quality or price.

VALUABLE PRIZES!

To our best Agents.

LARGE NEW PRICE LIST FREE!

Cheapest in America.

STANDARD STAMP CO.,
1,000 Hickory St., St. Louis, Mo.
Mention Curiosity World.

FREDERICK NOYES,

DEALER IN

POSTAGE STAMPS.

COLLINS, TEXAS

Send for Lists.

Advanced Collectors will find it to their interest to correspond with me.

Agents Wanted to sell from my approval sheets at 33 1-3 per cent. discount.

Special attention given to

EXCHANGE TRADE.

Always enclose stamp if you desire an answer.

The Foreign

STAMP COLLECTORS' NEWS.

Having purchased the entire stock of back numbers and volumes of the F. S. C. News, from Mr. E. England, I am offering the same at the following cheap rates, and beg to inform collectors that the same can only be purchased from me or my authorized agents:

Vol. I. Bound in cloth, gilt lettered, post free, \$.50
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Early application is recommended as but a few files remain. Remit by Money Order, payable to Nottingham, Eng.

The Stamp Dealers' Journal.

Vol. I. Unbound of this paper, post free, 6 cents

EDWARD ROBERTS,

154 Wilford R'd, Nottingham, Eng.

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USED SETS.

COUNTRY.	PRICE.
Austria Telegraph 8 var comp	\$ 15
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Chili, '77-'81 9 var.	15
Denmark '75 10 var. comp.	06
Egypt '79 8 var.	20
Guadeloupe unpaid '85 7 var. comp.	75
Guatemala '81 5 var. comp.	15
Hellgoland '67 8 var. comp.	15
Holland, unpaid, 5 & 10c.	07
Honduras, '78 5 var.	15
Hong Kong, 15 var.	25
Hungary, '75, 5 var. comp.	05
India service, 5 var.	10
Italy, Emanuel, 12 var.	10
Segnatasse, 10 var.	15
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Jamaica, '58-'73, 7 var. comp.	20
Japan, 12 var.	20
Mexico, '74-'78, 7 var. complete.	50
'84, 11 var. 1c to 50c, 40	
15 var.	20
Norway, '72 6 var. comp.	10
Persia, 15 var.	65
St. Domingo, '81, 6 var.	35
'81, 9 var. comp.	1.00
Salvador, '67, 4 var. comp.	20
Straits Settlements, 12 var.	30
Sweden, '72, 11 var.	05
official, 10 var.	15

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

Published on the 1st., and 15th., of each month.

H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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A Cross opposite this notice signifies that your subscription has expired. We should be pleased to have you renew.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H., as Second Class Matter.

FEBRUARY 15, 1888.

As our readers will remember, we made the statement in our issue of Jan. 15, that if the majority of our subscribers wished us to change the WORLD to magazine form we would do so, beginning with Vol. III. The result is a complete surprise, to us, at least. We have had just three requests to continue the paper in its present form, and over four hundred, to change it to magazine form. One of our readers says: "Continue the WORLD in its present form. It is more business like, has a more come to stay sort of a way with it that is pleasant. Articles appear in a better shape, and the whole appearance has a tone above the general run of papers of its class. By all means keep the paper as it is." This is our idea precisely. But it makes no difference what we think, or what anybody else thinks, now. We said if the majority of our readers favored magazine form, we would change. The result is over a hundred to one favor the magazine form and that settles it, right off quick. The WORLD in the future will contain sixteen pages—or more—and cover. The pages will be about seven and one half inches long and two columns to the page. We shall publish it but once a month, however. It will cost us as much money to publish the magazine once a month, as it does twice a month in its present form. We dislike to fall back to monthly issues, much more than we do to change the form. We have the paper now just where it suits us, but we shall endeavor to be suited with the new order of things, and try to make the future issues a little better than the past. The change to monthly will make no difference to either subscribers or advertisers, as they are credited for so many numbers. If they have paid for twenty-four numbers, they will get that number of papers—excuse us, magazines—as there will be no "double numbers" in ours. Vol. II. has been a big financial success over volume I. and if it continues as at present, we will give our readers a magazine that will be "handy for binding" and one which they will want to bind. We wish to thank all who have in any way contributed to our success, whether by articles, subscriptions or advertisements, and pledge them our best efforts to make the CURIOSITY WORLD a magazine of which they will be proud. In the future we shall give the WORLD more personal attention than we have during the last few months, and not leave quite so much to be done by outsiders. Our date of issue will be the 15th of the month. And now, four page, twenty column CURIOSITY WORLD, farewell, forever. If your successor, the magazine, is as successful in the future, as you have been in the past, we will not complain at the change.

Quite a number of Stamp Collectors, members of the American Philatelic Association, think that dealers should be excluded from offices in the Association. That is a good idea perhaps, but if they are excluded from holding any office, they should also be excluded from membership. There are about seventy-five members of the Association who are dealers. Mr. R. R. Bogert of New York City, Vice-president of the Association, did not run after the office; Mr. S. B. Bradt, of Chicago, Secretary, would not feel very badly if some one else were elected his successor; Mr. Rechert, of Hoboken, N. J., International Secretary, does not make any money out of his office; Mr. E. A. Holton, of Boston, Counterfeit Detector, does considerable work for very little money; Messrs. Sterling, Stone, Mac Calla and Western, Jr., wouldn't feel at all slighted if collectors were elected to fill their positions. Another writer thinks dealers are making lots of money out of the Exchange Department. Perhaps some of them do, but it would be much better for the deal-

This is one page of the Gem and World Stamp Albums. The Gem holds 600 stamps; price, 11 cents; the World holds 2,540 stamps; price 28 cents. Address J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

ers if there was no Association. The Association is a great benefit to collectors, but takes a great deal of trade from the dealers. Collectors will not buy stamps of dealers, which they can get through the Exchange or Purchasing Departments, and they are not to blame for it, as of course they can get them cheaper; but it makes us tired to hear so much fault found if a dealer puts a few sheets through the Exchange Department.

Collectors of, and dealers in U. S. Entire Stamped envelopes, seem to be greatly exercised over the fact that the four leading dealers have formed a pool, and had stamped envelopes made by the Government to their order, and charge collectors an "exorbitant" price for the same. We do not collect stamped envelopes, or deal in them to any extent. We should just as soon think of collecting bottles of patent medicine, bunches of matches or packs of playing cards with stamps thereon, as collecting entire envelopes; but if anyone does collect envelopes, we fail to see what objection they can have to those made to the order of Messrs. Bogert, Holton & Co., unless it is the price. They were issued by the Government, and can be used through the mails just the same as any envelopes, and if they are not "collectable," what is? In our opinion it is simply a case of "sour grapes" with the most of the kickers. The majority of them would have done the same thing if they could have had the foresight and capital to have done so. There are men in every line of trade who are filled with jealousy and envy at the success of a competitor, and it looks to us as though the growlers were either envious dealers, or collectors who want to get them for little or nothing.

Messrs. Dixby, Mitchell and Woodworth have been appointed a committee having charge of the organization of a Dealers' Protective Association. We sincerely hope the wide-awake stamp dealers and publishers will take hold of this and make it a success. It may start hard; we presume it will; but once started and in good working order, the slow-going, old style, conservative dealers will be as anxious to join it as they were the American Philatelic Association when they saw its success was assured.

"The publisher of THE CURIOSITY WORLD is contemplating changing it to a 16 page magazine. Don't do it, Bro. Hubbard; it is refreshing to turn from the stack of magazines that pile our table, and pick up a good, live collectors' newspaper like yours."—[Hawkeye State Collector.]

We prefer newspaper form, by long odds, but our readers say "magazine," and magazine it shall be.

The Jock and Wilder, 1c unperfected, is said to be the rarest match stamp.

A correspondent recently reported a 3c 1870, green, with a small square grill in each corner.

For 1000 mixed United States or foreign stamps, we will send this paper one year,—12 numbers.

On the 2c Interior Dept. stamps, the words "of the" are in a slanting position, and on the other values they run straight with the label.

The words "Thirty Cents" on department stamps are printed in the same color as the design, while on the other values the lettering is white.

I recently made a very agreeable discovery in the shape of a block of 4, 3c 1857 unused, unsevered and with the original gum. It is my opinion that it is quite a rarity.

Here is a gem from Bishop's Circular for February, 1884: "Dearest love, I have swallowed the postage stamp which was on your letter because I knew your lips had touched it."

A history of the Philatelic Societies and their doings would be a good work, and ten or twelve years from now would be a rare book, and a practical lesson to the societies of that period.

The Frankford Stamp Co., of Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa., are evidently a wide awake set of fellows. They are now giving away an unused Peru envelope stamp to all their agents. See advertisement.

Philatelic Frauds, 40 pages, (published by Simmons, 1883.) 15 cents; Black List, 12 pages, (published by Hubbard, 1886.) 11 cents; Coffin's Directory of Philatelic Frauds, 1887, 12 pages, 11 cents, or the three books for 25 cents, postpaid. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Anyone buying any of the goods offered for sale by J. M. Hubbard, to the value of 50 cents, at one time, and mentioning that he saw this notice, will receive the next twelve numbers of this paper, free! If goods to the value of \$1.00 are bought at one time, the next 24 numbers of the paper will be given.

The Philatelic Journal of America is now owned by a stock company consisting of C. H. Mekeel, President, Eugene Dill, Vice President, N. W. Chandler, Secretary-Treasurer, and E. M. Hackett, L. G. Custer, Louis Hauck, M. D., Chas. A. Stegmann, M. D. Batchelder, W. H. LePere, Col. T. B. Rodgers and T. Schmidt. Mr. N. W. Chandler will be business manager, and Mr. Mekeel will remain editor.

No. 2 of the "Collectors World" is very little paper, principally cover, or in other words, two pages inside of a four page cover.

Mr. F. R. Gillett (A. P. A. 144) of Freeport, Kansas, is about to publish a book devoted to Philately, entitled "A Power that Moves the World."

No. 1 of the "Philatelic Advertiser and Collectors' Referee" has made its appearance. It is published by S. Hellier, London, and is quite interesting.

The firm of W. E. Benjamin & Co., of New York, dealers in Autographs and publishers of the "Collector," has been dissolved. W. R. Benjamin continues.

H. B. Seagrave, of Ionia, Mich., has been elected Treasurer of the American Philatelic Association, and will enter upon the duties of his office immediately.

A wooden case was recently dug up at Pompeii, containing a complete set of surgical instruments, many of which are the same as those in use at the present time.

Fred McC. Smith, of Washington, D. C., has just issued the first number of the "National Philatelist." The name sounds very familiar, but the paper does not look very much like the old "N. P."

Mr. E. B. Sterling, of Trenton N. J. has sold his collection of rare stamps, paper currency, Confederate bonds, battle flags, coins, etc., to Mr. H. E. Deats, of Flemington, N. J. The consideration was \$7,000.

Massmore & Co. will hold their thirty-fifth Auction Sale at Bangs & Co's, New York, Feb. 16 and 17. The collection consists of U. S. and Foreign Coins, Medals, Fractional Currency, etc., and was the property of the late Bernhard Paulding, of Baltimore, Md., and an invoice from the estate of the late Charles Brown, of New York.

Old Stamp, Coin and Curiosity Papers.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD.
We have a very few complete files of Vol. I, which we are selling at \$2 each. Also a few copies of each issue except No. 1, at the following prices:

No.	1, sold only with complete volume.	No. 7.	No. 10.
2,	\$.20	8,	.10
3,	.20	9,	.10
4,	.10	10,	.10
5,	.10	11,	.15
6,	.10	12,	.10

No. 12 \$.20
AMERICAN STAMP MERCURY.
This paper was published by F. Trifet, Boston, 1867-69. We have purchased all the remaining copies and will furnish them at the following prices:
Vol. I, Bound in cloth gilt edges and title, \$1.00
Vol. II, " " " " " " " " .75
Both volumes, post free for \$1.50

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
Lake Village, New Hampshire.

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Lake Village, N. H.



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Revenue Stamps

ENVELOPES & POST-CARDS.

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Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

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Complete sets of all U. S. Department Stamps. Complete sets of U. S. Periodical Stamps. Large assortment of entire U. S. Envelopes, and more than 5,000 varieties of Foreign Postage Stamps always in stock.

DEPARTMENT STAMPS.

	Price for	Now.	Used.
Agriculture, 8 varieties	\$2.75		
Interior, 8 varieties,	.50	.40	
Navy, 7 varieties,	1.75	.65	
Post Office, 7 varieties,	1.00	.50	
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25 varieties of United States Stamps including War, Post Office, Treasury and Interior Department, 25 cents, 2 cents extra with all orders under 50 cents.			

Retail Price List furnished collectors and Wholesale sale list to dealers, upon application.
Correspondence in English and German, only.

THE IDEAL

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FIVE CENT PACKETS.

Each packet contains 12 varieties, the retail price of which is 15 to 25 cents. These packets are non-duplicate, and purchasers of the entire series will get 144 Foreign Stamps, all different. Price 5 cents each, 6 for 25 cents; 12 for 50 cents.

1. Contains Stamps from Austria, Barbados, Mexico, etc.
2. Contains Stamps from Belgium, Bavaria, Ceylon, etc.
3. Contains Stamps from Brazil, France, Finland, etc.
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9. Contains Stamps from Jamaica, N. S. Wales, Roumania.
10. Contains Stamps from Russia, Spain, Tasmania, etc.
11. Contains Stamps from Cuba, Portugal, Servia, etc.
12. Contains 12 var. of obsolete United States Stamps, including 1851, 1861 issues, Department, and square cut envelopes. This is the only packet in the series which contains U. S. stamps.

TEN CENT PACKETS.

Each packet contains 24 varieties, the retail price of which is 25 to 50 cents. These packets are non-duplicate, and purchasers of the entire series will get 240 varieties of stamps. Price, 10 cents each, 3 for 25 cents, 12 for \$1.00, post free.

13. Contains obsolete U. S. stamps only, including 1851, '61, '69 and 1870 issues, War, Post Office, Interior and Treasury Depts., etc. This is the only packet in the series which contains U. S. stamps.
14. Contains Stamps from Austrian Italy, Baden, Chili, etc.
15. Contains Stamps from Brazil, C. G. Hope, Bavaria, etc.
16. Contains Stamps from Barbadoes, Ceylon, Egypt, Finland, etc.
17. Contains Stamps from Gt. Britain, Norway, Prussia, Thurn and Taxis, etc.
18. Contains Stamps from Hong Kong, Dutch E. Indies, Mexico, etc.
19. Contains Stamps from Peru, Roman States, Belgium, Germany, etc.
20. Contains Stamps from Sandwich Islands, Spain (old), Saxony, Denmark, etc.
21. Contains Stamps from Japan, French Colonies, St. Settlements, Swiss.
22. Contains Stamps from Bulgaria, Turkey, Wurtemberg, Holland, etc.
23. Contains Stamps from Venezuela, Jamaica, Hungary, France, etc.
24. Contains Stamps from Heligoland, Gt. Britain, Victoria, N. S. Wales, etc.

—FOR SALE BY—

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
Lake Village, New Hampshire.

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If not, you should send 25 cents at once and receive a handsome premium FREE. Sample copy sent free. Remember we want to hear from YOU.
SMITH & KLOCK, Delta, N. Y.



FOR SALE!
A fine 32 calibre Ballard rifle, Oct barrel, set triggers, good as new, cost \$20, will sell for \$12. Also a shot gun, cheap. J. D. Snyder, Box 32, Lowell, Ohio.

AUTOGRAPHS!
If you want to buy, sell or exchange,
Write to
BURNS & SON.,
744 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.

We have always in stock letters and documents of Colonial Governors, Signers Declaration of Independence and Constitution, Generals Revolution, Presidents and Cabinet Officers, Literary (American and Foreign,) Kings and Queens, etc.

Send for November number of the
American Antiquarian
Containing priced list of Autographs for sale. Please mention the CURIOSITY WORLD, when answering this ad.

FREDERICK NOYES,
DEALER IN
POSTAGE STAMPS.
COLLINS, TEXAS.

Send for Lists.
Advanced Collectors will find it to their interest to correspond with me.
Agents Wanted to sell from my approval sheets at 33 1-3 per cent. discount.
Especially attention given to
EXCHANGE TRADE.
Always enclose stamp if you desire an answer.

To Collectors.
I have a large stock of Foreign Postage Stamps which I have made up on
Approval Sheets
marked at lowest possible prices and want one agent in every town and village. Commission 30 per cent. Send 2c. stamp and reference, secure the agency and make money. Price Lists free.
To Dealers.
I have an excellent article in Blank Sheets, ruled in two colors to hold 60 stamps, strong, light weight linen paper, printed headings, which I offer at 70c. per 100, 38c. per 50 or 10c. per dozen, postpaid. Sample sheet for 2c. stamp.
Address
A. LOHMEYER,
933 Milton Place, Baltimore, Md.
Member 35, Canada Phil. Association.
Please mention CURIOSITY WORLD.

AUTOGAPHS FOR SALE!
A Desirable lot of Letters of the Presidents of the United States,
Together with a Large Number of Political and Literary Names.

These are duplicates which have accumulated from my own collection and I wish to expend their value in adding new material to it. I have some very desirable autographs and shall be pleased to send any on approval to responsible parties. I briefly enumerate some of the more important.
CHARLES THE FIRST, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal Sign Manual to a document; 1630; with seal; Very fine.
WILLIAM III, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal sign manual to a document, one page folio, 1693, signed by Godolphin and others.
QUEEN ANNE, OF ENGLAND.
Royal sign manual to a document, four pages folio 1704. In splendid condition.
WILLIAM III, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal sign manual to a document, one page folio, 1693, signed by Godolphin and others.
GEORGE I, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal sign manual to a document; 1p, 1727.
GEORGE IV, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal sign manual to a commission, 1813.

JAMES MONROE.
Three very neat autograph letters of two, three and two pages quarto, on public affairs and especially interesting.
JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.
Four long, closely written letters, of much interest and in fine condition.
ANDREW JACKSON.
Four documents signed as Major General at New Orleans and four signatures.
JOHN TYLER.
Three autograph letters in very good shape and desirable.
JAMES K. POLK.
Three autograph letters written while President. Very neat specimens.
MILLARD FILLMORE.
Three autograph letters written while President, to Daniel Webster.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
A ship's paper signed by both Lincoln and Seward. The President's name in full.
JAMES BUCHANAN.
Three fine autograph letters and very interesting.
An A. L. Spr. Martin Van Buren, signatures of Washington, Jefferson, Grant, McKean and Arthur and a good D. S. of Garfield.

EDWARD GIBBON, THE HISTORIAN.
Document signed, 1 page folio, 1787.
An autograph letter each of Longfellow, Bryant, Fie ds, Howells, Saxe and Bayard Taylor. Documents of Thornton, Ellery, Sherman, Rich. Bartlett, Mo ton, Clymer, Hopkinson, Morris, McKean and Rodney, the Signers. A large number of miscellaneous letters and some good signatures. (Correspondence directed with collectors. Send for list.)
HOWARD K. SANDERSON,
46 Myrtle St., Lynn, Mass.
With GOLDING & CO.,
183 Fort Hill Square, Boston, Mass.

SOME INTERESTING AUTOGRAPHS.
BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.
(Continued.)

Parliament chose as a successor to Queen Anne, George, Elector of Hanover, a great-grandson of James the First, and with him begins the Guelph line of Kings, or the house of Brunswick. England now had the curious experience of a King who only spoke German. He was a man who cared more for his own country than England, and the Tories, who were against him, made much trouble for his highness. A son of James the Second, calling himself James the Third, came forward during his reign and raised a considerable party about him. Louis the Fourteenth of France had promised to help him secure the throne, but he died and James was easily defeated. It is a very good idea to lay in with the rest, just here, the autograph of this James III. who is better known as the Old Pretender. In 1727, King George died, having reigned thirteen years. His autograph is the rarest of all the Georges, and is about on a par in value, with James, William and Anne. He wrote a very good series of pen-scratches, which he called his name, and perhaps set an example to his successors, who all wrote with marked improvement over their predecessors of the previous century. His autograph is worth about five dollars, and it is not impossible to obtain an autograph letter.

George the First was followed by his son, George the Second. He was a small, light haired, fair faced man, in his forty-fifth year, speaking English with difficulty, and caring but little for anything. Four great wars occurred during his reign and the names of Sir Robert Walpole and William Pitt, became prominent. The French and Indian War was the principal event in America, and of its results we all know something. He died in 1760, having held the sceptre and worn the crown thirty-three years. We now come to a point from which the autographs of royalty are not much more valuable than other people's. George the Second wrote a clear, bold hand, signing his name in large round letters, which leaves no doubt in the mind of the reader as to what it is. A good sign manual should be bought for three or four dollars, and perhaps less.

In 1760, his son succeeded him, as George the Third, and with him began a reign of the greatest importance to our own country. How, by his obstinate patriotism the American colonies revolted under the unjust pressure of the Stamp Act, and how the Continental Army in homespun and buckskin, put to flight the gay red and buff of the royal soldiery, we all know. How the Americans twisted the lion's tail so badly that he was willing to make any terms with them, has been told so many times, we have no need to dwell upon it. In 1810 the King's mind gave way and he became insane, the Prince Regent assuming his duties, although the King lived until 1820. His death closed a career of sixty years as sovereign and one of the longest reigns in English history. His autograph which is particularly neat and tasty, is by far the easiest to obtain of all the crowned heads of Great Britain. He must have signed innumerable documents and papers during his long reign, and as if in proof of it, they turn up in great numbers even at the present day. A very fine document signed is worth but a dollar or two, and an autograph letter is to be had for a fair price.

He was succeeded by his son, George the Fourth, who had been nominally King for ten years. His reign was full of incident, he being at war nearly all of the time. The Battle of Waterloo was fought during his regency and Napoleon's star went down. He ruled until 1830, when William the Fourth, his brother, took his place. The autograph of King George the Fourth is almost to be had for the asking. It is not at all rare and for a small sum a good specimen can be obtained. His handwriting was not particularly good, for he used too much ink and evidently did not take much pains with his work. William the Fourth reigned but seven years, or until 1837, when he died. His autograph is not as often met with as the four Georges, but it is not rare. He wrote a very rapid hand and altogether quite good for a King. The only autograph letter in the series, in our collection, is one of William, and is valued at six dollars. A sign manual can be bought for less.

In 1837, Alexandrina Victoria, a niece of William the Fourth, ascended the throne and still reigns, having been queen for fifty years. How well she has governed and what events have taken place during her administration we have no need to allude to. Her autograph is a very clear, sharp signature, rather masculine in its size, but neat and plain. The price is higher just at present, than perhaps its real value. A good document signed is worth five dollars, but is not very easy to obtain.

With this we will let our little history come to an end, hoping that it may have proved of some interest to those who have read it. In conclusion it may be of interest to know that Westminster Abbey is the burial place of twenty-seven kings and queens of England, including Henry VII., James I., Edward VI., Charles II., William III., George II., Elizabeth, Bloody Mary, Mary Queen of Scots, and Anne.

We also add that should the reader ever be in London, he will find the finest collection of autographs of the Kings and Queens in the world, at the British Museum. We briefly mention the more prominent, giving an idea of the vastness of the exhibit.

A letter of Edward IV., signed in 1471; a warrant signed by Edward VI., in 1547; a petition signed by Richard III., in 1485; an autograph letter of Henry VII., 1520; an autograph letter of Cardinal Wolsey, from Katherine of Aragon, signed as queen; a letter of Anne Boleyn, signed as queen; an autograph letter of Edward VI., to the Duke of Somerset, 1547; a letter of Lady Jane Grey, dated from the Tower, 1558, and signed as queen; a letter signed by Mary, Queen of Scots, 1563, also a second letter, dated 1579; an order from James I., 1604; an autograph letter of Charles I., 1642; an autograph letter of Cromwell, 1647, and one of Charles II., 1665, together with one each of every king and queen who followed them. Then there are the following grants and charters to be seen. A grant of Hordilredus, 692; a grant of King Edgar in 961; a grant of King Canute in 1031; a grant of Edward the Confessor in 1045; a charter of Henry I.; a grant of Henry II.; a grant of Richard I., 1189; a grant of Henry III., 1255; a letter of Edward I., 1292; a letter of Queen Eleanor, 1262; grant of William II.; a charter of Henry I., and many others. But we get envious in thinking of them. So we will say with the crier, "God Save the King."

Of By-Gone Days.
[Adrian, (Mich.) Daily Times.]

Early in 1848, Mr. C. B. Stebbins, then editor of THE EXPOSITOR, but now a resident of Lansing, casting about for a candidate for the whig party for president, settled upon Millard Fillmore, then an honored citizen of Buffalo, and duly nominated him for that high office, in the columns of the paper. Of course, the Buffalo gentleman was advised of the honor conferred upon him by the Adrian editor, and in acknowledgement thereof he wrote the following letter, which Mr. Stebbins has carefully preserved, and which his nephew, Mr. Fred B. Stebbins, of this city, has had photographed for the Agassiz society:

ALBANY, March 2d, 1848.
Dear Sir:—Permit me to express my grateful acknowledgements for the high and unmerited compliment which you have paid me by placing my name at the head of your paper for the first office in the gift of the nation.
I cannot for a moment suppose that I can stand any chance for a nomination, when so many brilliant names that the people delight to honor are struggling for the dazzling prize. But I feel no less sensibly the kind partiality that has induced a generous friend to pay me this flattering compliment.
Who will be nominated it is now difficult to say, but of one thing I am confident, and that is that the whig convention to assemble in June will select such candidates for president and vice-president as will command the confidence of the whig party and insure its success.
I am truly yours,
MILLARD FILLMORE.
C. B. Stebbins, Esq.

Nesting of the Chestnut-Sided Warbler.
BY C. P. COLLINS.

While out collecting one day in the latter part of June, 1886, I came to the banks of a small stream fringed on both sides with quite a growth of hazel and alder bushes. Strolling along, looking carefully through the bushes in every direction, I suddenly spied a pair of pretty little birds hopping about in a clump of hazel bushes. Although this pair was the first of the species I had ever seen, I instantly recognized them from descriptions and mounted specimens which I had seen, as the Chestnut-Sided Warbler. Upon my nearer approach, the birds exhibited considerable uneasiness, flitting about from bush to bush and keeping up a constant chirping. Thinking that they had a nest near, I wandered carefully through the bushes for some distance round the spot, on both banks of the stream; but after a half-hour of fruitless search, I gave it up and went home, thoroughly disgusted.

A few days after, happening near the same place, I saw the same pair of birds. This time being sure that they must have a nest near, I commenced another search, and soon found the nest, where I am certain that it was not when I was there before. So I think the birds had simply selected the locality for a nest, which was the reason they were disturbed by my approach. The nest was situated in the

fork of a yellow birch sapling about eight feet from the ground, and was not yet completed.

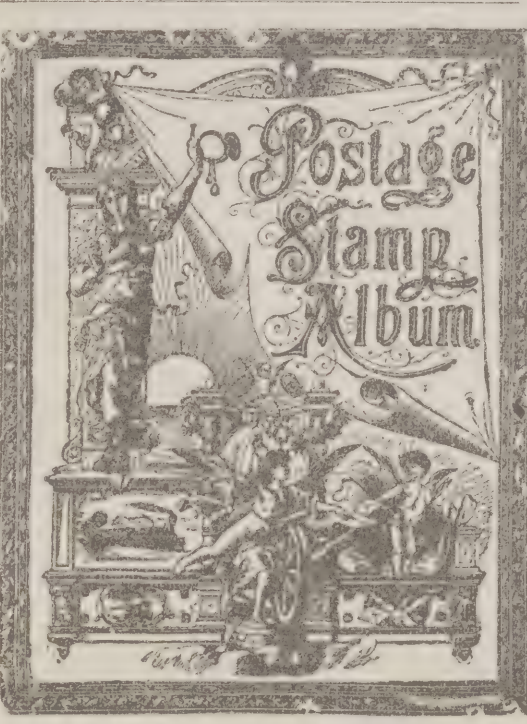
After this I visited the nest nearly every day for a week, during which time the nest was completed and three eggs laid. After waiting two or three days, no more eggs being laid, I took the set. The eggs measured .66x.49, .67x.50, .68x.51 and were of a uniform cream color, spotted and blotched over the larger end with different shades of brown, umber and lilac. The nest was a very pretty structure composed of grass fibres, birch bark, etc. firmly woven together and lined with hair. The nest measured inside, about two inches in diameter, by one and one half in depth.

Confederate Money.

Since the downfall of the Southern Confederacy Confederate money has been growing more valuable each year, and any one desiring a few specimens should procure them at once. We have a small stock of Confederate bills, which we are selling at 10 cents each, or three varieties for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The Stamp Dealers of the World.

We have just issued the Stamp Dealers of the World, containing the addresses of over 600 stamp dealers in all parts of the world. The list is as complete as is possible to make it and contains 29 pages and cover and is very valuable to both dealer and collector. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three for 27 cents. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.



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Together with a Large Number of Political and Literary Names.

These are duplicates which have accumulated from my own collection and I wish to expend their value in adding new material to it. I have some very desirable autographs and shall be pleased to send any on approval to responsible parties. I briefly enumerate some of the more important.

CHARLES THE FIRST, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal Sign Manual to a document; 1636; with seal; Very fine.

WILLIAM III, KING OF ENGLAND.
Royal sign manual to a document, one page folio, 1693, signed by Godolphin and others.

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Three very neat autograph letters of two, three and two pages quarto, on public affairs and especially interesting.

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An autograph letter each of Longfellow, Bryant, Fields, Howells, Saxe and Bayard Taylor. Documents of Thornton, Ellery, Sherman, Rich, Bartlett, Morton, Clynor, Hopkinson, Morris, McKean and Rodney, the Signers. A large number of miscellaneous letters and some good signatures. Correspondence desired with collectors. Send for list.

HOWARD K. SANDERSON,
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An Oologist's Vacation.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.
(Continued.)

Up to this time we were favored with excellent weather, but the storm that had hung suspended, as it were, like the fabled sword by a hair, at length broke upon us. Like most spring storms it commenced at night, but the first thing I knew of it was Harry's exclamation, "Norman, I am wet through; how are you?"

"I am getting wet too; where does the water come from?"

"I guess it is running down the hill."

Upon rising we could plainly see that such was the case, and that our inexperience had caused us to neglect digging a trench around the tent; so upon the breaking of day we borrowed a spade, and were not troubled in that quarter any more. It rained incessantly that day, and while Harry would peruse his archaeological papers and books with evident pleasure, I was obliged to sample my eggs and to fill out my note-book. Meanwhile you may rest assured that we fared well.

But one of the most remarkable things was Harry's tenacity in going for the milk and cream. Little did it matter how heavy the storm, punctual at the accustomed time, he would start with his pails for the farm-house. At a subsequent trip I saw the lady in question, a blushing damsel of sixteen, and did not so much wonder at my friend's infatuation.

During a lull in the storm the second day, we went fishing for sun-fish. Going where the water was about three and a half feet deep, we threw our corked lines baited with angle-worms, among the rushes. It being spawning time I soon had a nibble, and hauled up a gamy fish called by the natives "Pumpkin seeds."

Why so called I am unable to say, for one could not imagine anything farther from being a pumpkin seed, for it was the typical sunfish of the most beautiful coloration; indeed all the primary colors were represented.

Harry soon had three struggling captives in the boat, in the form of Bream. These two species are without doubt the gamiest flat fish, but unlike their near relative, the black bass, easily tire out. They bit rapidly for we struck a large school, and we had fourteen before they ceased biting, or rather when an unsuspicious looking cloud broke upon us; so by the time we reached our landing among the willows we were thoroughly crunched.

Harry, in coming in with supplies, had found a bird's nest, and not being a climber did not scale the tree, but upon his arrival said he had found a Redbird's nest. Unmindful of the drizzling rain I ascended the tree, hardly expecting to find more than one or two of her eggs; imagine my pleasure when I found four of her eggs and one Cowbird's.

The fourth day the storm continued unabated, and to use Harry's Californian expression "we are going to have the wet season." About two hours before sunset the beautifully colored sky announced the coming of a fairer day. About this time Harry and I took a ramble to the east about a half mile from camp. Espying a crumbling log-hut—those disappearing emblems of pioneer days—partly from curiosity and partly for adventure we clambered into it.

"Look at that axe." "See that swift's nest," were our simultaneous exclamations. Harry's quick eye had discovered a grooved Indian axe lying on the partly boarded floor where some tenant, not thinking it worth moving, had left it to finally gladden a collector's heart. The swift's nest was located or glued to a hewn log about six feet from the floor, and six inches from the ceiling. There were five eggs in the basket-like structure. Although not a rare bird, original sets are hard to obtain, because, building as they do in chimneys and other inaccessible places, a number of eggs are nearly always broken in obtaining them. This complete clutch went into my collection.

After thoroughly examining the garret with its traditional ladder and holes where the visiting guest was often plunged down stairs, and the apology of a cellar, we were convinced that the privations of the "Old Settlers" were not exaggerations.

Steering campward we cooked a rousing supper, for the cool, bracing lake air is a powerful appetizer, and retired early with definite plans for the prospective good morrow.

(To be Continued.)

A Tramp After Indian Relics.

The bank of the Ohio river above and below the Newport Watermarks on the Kentucky side, was at one time an Indian burying ground, judging from the number of graves opened by a couple of my friends at different times. One of the graves contained the skeleton of a warrior in a good state of preservation, lying on its back stretched out at full length.

The skull was in perfect condition, and this they wished to preserve, but unfortunately, in digging it out they undermined a large rock lying above the grave, which rolled down upon the skull completely crushing it. This grave contained, beside the skeleton mentioned, sixteen arrow heads, none of which, with one exception, were in good condition; that one was a small, black flint, having the shape of an awl; also two pipes, one in good condition, the other broken; two whole tomahawks, and about a quart of pieces of flint.

Every grave they opened had one or more large rocks lying above it, having been put there probably for the purpose of preventing wolves and other wild animals from digging up and devouring the remains. One day I set out with my friend E. J. W. in search of relics and after walking about five miles we reached the aforementioned burying-ground, and commenced to hunt for graves, but for a while with little success, not having come during a favorable time for it was very dry through the summer and the ground was dry as powder. The best time to look for graves is after a heavy rain, for then the bank caves down frequently, throwing arrow-heads and other relics into plain view. Finally we found what appeared to be a grave and we set to work to dig it out, but it contained nothing but some bones, a number of fragments of arrow-heads and a quantity of charcoal and mussel shells. We unearthed two other such places without finding anything to repay us for our trouble, so we gave up searching the bank as a bad job, and commenced looking among the boulders on the bar for such implements as might happen to be washed out from the bank.

Here we were more successful, as I picked up five or six arrow-heads in good condition, besides four or five others that were slightly broken at the points. My friend found two tomahawks, one of which was made of white flint, about a dozen arrow-heads and a hammer stone. This was all we found that day, although others have been much more successful than we were. One of my friends found over two hundred arrow-heads in one summer, in addition to a number of spear heads, tomahawks, pipes and hammer stones. All along both the Ohio and Kentucky sides of the river was at one time a bonanza for collectors of Indian relics.

Several men who lived along the banks of the Ohio twenty or thirty years ago, have declared to me that it is their honest belief that a person could easily pick up a hundred arrow-heads a day in the fields, and I have no reason to doubt their words as I have found a good many, and my friend E. J. W. has found nearly a hundred sometimes picking up two or three in a few minutes walk. An arrow-head he found in the field not far from his house was one of the most beautiful specimens I ever saw. It was about one and a quarter inches long, half an inch across the base, and triangular in shape. It was of white translucent flint, not more than one sixteenth of an inch thick, with the edges most beautifully serrated.

There was a collection of several thousand arrow-heads at the Cincinnati Industrial Exposition, one fall, and among them I did not see a single one that was its equal for beauty and perfection of shape, outline and finish. G. W. HAVLIN.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

This Department will be discontinued after our next issue, therefore no more Exchange notices will be received. Those who have paid for more insertions will find their notices among the ads.

For 200 square-cut envelope stamps I will give a brand new Gem stamp album containing space for 600 stamps. John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Exchange desired with stamp and coin collectors in all parts of the world. All communications answered. O. H. Givier, Naperville, Ill.

Document, match, medicine, adhesives, rare foreign stamps, and unused and entire foreign post cards to exchange for revenues. W. H. Danforth, Worcester, Mass.

Fine silver and bronze coins of the twelve Cæsars wanted for cash or exchange. Send impressions. C. J. Verconter, 80 E. Superior St., Chicago, Ill. 27

Christies, Fossils, Relics, etc., for Indi in Reiles; send list and receive mine. Louis E. Hudson, 12118-burg, Jeff Co., N. Y.

50 rare U. S. and Foreign stamps for U. S. not in my collection; send list and I will send mine. Chas. W. Pearl, 23 Essex St., Lawrence, Mass. 24

A Peru 20 cent piece in good condition for every U. S. or Canada 25 cent piece sent me. Two differ cent Peru 20 cent pieces for every U. S. or Canada 50 cent piece sent me: send stamps for postage. Eugene Lebeuf, Jr., Fox River, Panama Railroad, Aspinwall.

For a perfect arrow head I will give 10 varieties Foreign or obsolete American stamps, or 25 for every 5 match or medicine stamps. John H. An, Ontario, Ohio. 24

Sea anisosties, urchins, corals, shells, etc., from West Indies. Books, 200 coppers and about 50 var. minerals to exchange for books. E. T. Oberholzer, Box 212, Lansdale, Pa. 21

Arrow heads from Ohio for gray stone arrow and spears from Illinois; a second-hand melodian in good condition for Indian or war relics valued at \$15. Joshua Arter, Crestline Ohio. 25

25 postmarks for every special delivery stamp or stamped envelope sent me. P. F. O'Keefe, Mansfield Valley, Pa. 25

30 var foreign stamps for every good arrow head, large copper cent or half cent, 75 tin tags, 700 post marks, 2 fonts of type, 2 pairs of club skates, and a good magic lantern for large copper cents, half cents department or old U. S. stamps. Frank Laberteaux, Box 391, Albion, Mich.

New copy of the "Silent Friend," costing \$1. Will exchange for 75 cents worth of unused foreign stamps at Scott's catalogue prices. H. H. Grant, L. Box 1,660, Fitchburg, Ma. 28

600 var tin tags, 450 are unused and 200 var paper tags for a New York black 1848, or best offer in Department stamps. Alfred Owre, 119 Sec. St. So. Minneapolis, Minn.

A lot of libraries, novels and other reading matter also a number of philatelic papers to exchange for other libraries or novels. Nason R. Christie, Beckwith, Cal.

Will exchange first class eggs in sets for old style half dollars. Box 34, North Granville, N. Y.

A complete printing outfit for a 32 or 38 calibre Smith Bull Dog revolver with reloading tools. A. Barritt, 3,615 Cozans Ave. St. Louis, Mo.

80 large copper cents and 40 eagle cents to exchange for foreign or U. S. Coins, or for a good coin cabinet. William Hutchison, North Star, Pa.

Wanted, any numbers of the "Outing." Send list of what you have and what you want. Wm. H. Bacon, L. Box 12, West Newton, Mass.

Two fine mounted Great Horned Owls for V nickels without cents, and old fashioned ship plates or old style half dollars. Box 34, North Granville, N. Y.

Wanted, two 83 gold pieces, any date, for which I will give good exchange in sets of eggs with full data. Box 34 North Granville, N. Y.

Vol. 7 Golden Days, unbound, for best offer U. S. or Confederate stamps. A large cent of 1797 for stamps. A. H. Cressy, 401, cor 2nd & Walnut Sts., Wilmington, N. C.

A 32 calibre revolver, never been used, for the complete set of Navy, unused. E. Clark Reed, Lake Villa, Cal.

Wanted, sets any kind wablers eggs with full data and nest, in fact send list of any sets you may have with nests, also want a set of Western horned owl and sand hill crane. Will give good sets in exchange for above. Box 34, North Granville, N. Y.

A Nutshell printing outfit, a pair of No 9 half club skates and stamps, for stamps not in my collection. J. H. Kline, Jr., Montgomery, N. Y.

Will give cents, half cents and foreign coins for Jackson cents and foreign coins. F. L. Smith, Brandon, Vt.

Vol 8 Golden Days or vol 48 Youths' Companion in good condition for an 1866 eagle cent or an 1877 5 cent and 1873 2c or both for a coin cabinet or offers. Wm. Hutchison, North Star, Pa.

First class birds' eggs in sets for such sets as I may want. Also sets to exchange for V. nickels without cents or for ten, twenty five and 50 cent coin plates. Box 34, North Granville, N. Y.

A pet grey squirrel, 150 mounted birds and animals and books to exchange for field glass, scientific books. E. L. Brown, Durand, Wisconsin.

Good exchange for printing materials, electric call bell, Indian relics, large blank book and V. nickels without cents. S. Barr, 64 Somerset St., New Brunswick, N. J.

I have a number of sets, also single stamps for type blank cards etc; write first. Henry I. Thcomb, 11 Bartlett St. Haverhill Mass.

E. T. PARKER'S

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The Curiosity World.

VOL. II. NO. 11.

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POSTMASTER-GENERAL.
DON M. DICKINSON,
OF Michigan.

Don M. Dickinson is in his forty-first year and comes of American stock on both sides, through generations running back to the seventeenth century. On his father's side he is descended from the Massachu-
setts Dickinsons and on his mother's from the Holmeses, who were with Roger Williams at the Providence plantations. His father was a man of rare intellect and high cultivation. Circumstances made it necessary for young Dickinson to earn his own way to education, and he accom-
plished it at school and college with his own means, gained at first by manual labor and later by an exceptional capacity and judgement for all business, and a re-
markable faculty for turning off work, and for taking responsibility. Admitted to the bar when barely twenty-one he rose rapidly in his profession, and from the age of twenty-five he has been a leading lawyer in his State, and from the age of thirty, one of the first counsel in the Northwest. His name has been associ-
ated as counsel in nearly every famous lit-
igation in Michigan, and in the Supreme Court of the United States his record of successes has been brilliant. Mr. Dickin-
son's contest in behalf of the State courts against the alleged invasion of their ju-
risdiction by the Federal judiciary under the Bankruptcy Law was quasi-political in its character, and in the Supreme Court of the United States, in the LeRoux case, after seven years of defeats in the lower courts, his position was sustained. His latest widely known appearance in that court was in the great telephone contest where he made the leading argument for Drawbaugh against Bell, and was asso-
ciated with Senator Edmunds and Lysan-
der Hill. His professional income runs from thirty to fifty thousand dollars per annum. In politics Mr. Dickinson is a Jeffersonian Democrat, believing in do-
mestic self-government, a strict construction of the Constitution, and opposing class legislation, in which he embraces all protective laws. But he advises care and caution in dealing with protection as it exists. He has been a recognized leader of his party since he attained his majority. Mr. Dickinson's first vote was cast for Horatio Seymour. He was Secretary of the State Central Committee at twenty-four, and chairman in the Tilden cam-
paign of 1876, when twenty-eight, con-
ducting one of the most vigorous cam-
paigns Michigan has known, and doing a great part in reducing the sixty thousand Republican majority to twenty thousand plurality. He was close in Governor Tilden's counsels both in 1876 and 1880, and was on terms of friendship with that distinguished man. Mr. Dickinson was De-
legate-at-Large to the convention of 1880, and chairman of the Michigan delegation. Since 1884 he has represented Michigan on the National Committee. Mr. Dickin-
son has constantly refused the use of his name as a candidate for Congress or any other office. The only public position he ever held was that of visitor to the United States Naval Academy, the expenses and emoluments of which he devoted to the use of that institution. Mr. Dickinson is a man calculated to make an eminently efficient Cabinet officer.

Evolution.

Evolution means the derivation of the higher forms of life from the lower. There are two principal theories as to how this takes place, and it is merely the position of these two which I wish to define in this brief article.

The first school teaches that the lower forms of creation contain the higher, and that proper care, or environment, is all that is required to produce the latter, there being no limit as to time. In other words, every germ of life contains the possibility of a higher existence, and if such is not produced from it, the environ-
ment has not been exactly what was need-
ed. By environment is meant the pres-
sure of outer circumstances and condi-
tions. It is much easier to say why cer-
tain motions should take place, than that there should be any motion at all; we know that most motion is in the line of the least resistance. Hence the theory of the survival of the fittest. There is a constant battle for subsistence inside each species and between different species, and out of this struggle emerge the strong forms, which are to develop. All forms do not ascend or else we would have man alone, the highest. For if evolution pressed equally in all directions, man would be compelled to become a cannibal, so that such system would in time destroy itself. Some of the lower forms become extinct, but the bulk of them remain, and are necessary. They do not ascend into higher forms, simply because they have gotten outside of the influence of the proper environment. The process is still going on; there is no wide gap between the past and the present; as in the past, so in the present; new specimens will ap-
pear, and possibly a higher form than man.

The second school teaches that the lower form of creation does not contain the higher. But the production of the higher form is involved in some control-
ling and directing intelligence. This is what is termed a mediate creation in con-
tradistinction to the former, or immediate. The creation of man was mediate; in fact the whole bible, and particularly the book of Genesis, teaches the theory of mediate creation. It certainly has its place, but it is only one of many elements, and would not be sufficient in itself.

There are many facts which tend to strengthen the theory of superintending intelligence. There is no limit of develop-
ment, from lower to higher, in chemical elements. The question is open as to what constitutes the difference in the in-
organic field. It is impossible to account for the development of the organic from the inorganic. Some have explained it by the theory of spontaneous generation, but this cannot be true, since it does not take place to-day; for as we have previously seen, as in the past, so in the present.

Herbert Spencer says this development took place when the planet was in a heated condition; if this were true why could not the same be carried on to-day, since that condition might be readily repro-
duced. Prof. Tyndall denies spontaneous generation. The germ theory also repu-
diates it. Take the simplest of living things, the lichen, and see if its structure admits of such a theory. Prof. Rothrock says this plant in reality consists of two, both of which are necessary for the exist-
ence of the lichen, and neither of which could live if separated. One part assim-
ilates, while the other reproduces. We thus find that the simplest of organisms is so complete as not to admit of the theory of spontaneous generation. The metaphysician Hegel grants that there is no evidence of this theory, but he holds to it for the reason that there is no other alternative than to fall back on Theology. When we come to trace the difference between animal and vegetable organisms, we find their relations so closely connect-
ed that it is impossible to draw accurate-
ly the line of division. We see carniv-
orous and sensitive plants on the one hand, and what might be termed rooted animals on the other.

In tracing the difference between man and animals we find that materially there is little or none. The chief dissimilarity is a spiritual one, and lies in the moral nature which man possesses. And even the animal is endowed with something which in a measure approaches this. It is said that conscience means a fear of consequences, and that as a dog has this fear, so he in a measure possesses a con-
science. But this is not strictly the case, as the dog will stand a beating so long as the pain does not surpass the con-
sequences of his turning upon you; at the moment it does, he springs at your throat. But, however, the conscience does not consist in the fear of conse-
quences, but in a sense of repentance. Then too, there is a higher attribute of the moral nature which is not even approach-
ed in animals, it is the demand for right-

eousness.

But there are difficulties as to this the-
ory. Astronomy teaches us that the earth's motion is slower, by some hours, every year, so that if this loss of motion is calculated for millions of years, we should find the planet revolving so rapidly that nothing could remain on its sur-
face. We must, therefore, infer that the process of evolution took place in a com-
paratively short time.

The theory of the survival of the fittest is ambiguous and does not account for evolution. The first difficulty presents itself when we ask, which is the fittest? It has been said that the highest is; but this cannot be true since there must have been some starting point at which all were on equal footing. Mere conflict might account for some survivals, but not for upward movement, or develop-
ment. Environment does not account for evolution, but for what might be termed metamorphosis.

GEO. HENDERSON.

Collectors and Collecting.

Collecting has made immense strides in the past twenty years. From being the pastime of a few individuals with hardly half a dozen dealers in the country, and scarcely as many publications, it has become not only a source of interest and study to thousands, but a regular depart-
ment of business. In response to the de-
mand for knowledge on the subject, and a want for convenient mediums of ex-
change, numberless publications have sprung into existence, with a mushroom rapidity, equalled only by some of the mining towns of the west. Some, too, are even more evanescent. Within the past six months more than a dozen differ-
ent papers devoted to collecting, most of them in their 1st volume, many their 1st number, have been sent me, varying in size, from those as large as a letter sheet, to a respectable looking journal of eight pages.

Philately, coins and curios each have their representatives. Collecting ranges from the trashy accumulation of tags, buttons, postmarks and such valueless stuff, to the more pretentious and really valuable gathering of stamps, coins, min-
erals, Indian relics, curios and kindred ar-
ticles, whose historic or scientific value and associations entitle them to a high consideration, and afford ample field for research and study.

Collectors may properly be divided in-
to the following classes; those who col-
lect for show, because it is fashionable, or for a transient curiosity or caprice and whose accumulations eventually gath-
er dust, the owner showing a lamentable lack of information concerning his cu-
rios; those who collect for profit, making it a business, and those who collect for a genuine love of it and whose investiga-
tions make them familiar with whatever department their collections may lie in. When you visit a collector and find a mass of curiosities indiscriminately arranged, coins all in a box, silver copper and all nationalities together; eggs huddled to-
gether on cotton, and minerals and relics without label or name, and lastly the owner unable to give an intelligent history or description of his curiosities, it is truly a bad presentation of the term collec-
tor. The true collector makes a study of each object he gets. He has a genuine love for the history and science that are wrapped up in his collections ready for him to unravel. He can tell the value and intrinsic merit of his coins and which are the most rare. He can locate the class and family of his birds' eggs, and tell you where all his woods come from. His relics and curios are neatly labelled, even if not arranged in a cabinet, and bear un-
mistakable evidence that you are in the presence of one worthy the name of col-
lector, and who will win respect and ad-
miration for a truly valuable vocation or recreation.

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The Stamps of Bergedorf.
The quaint little German town of Bergedorf, is on the Bille, or Rille, and is distant "Nine Miles E; ten miles E. S. E; twelve miles E; ten miles E; twelve miles E. S. E; and twelve kilometres S.E. of Hamburg." How definite that is! It was evidently once a troublesome little place, a thorn in the side, so to speak, of the twin commercial giants of other days—Hamburg and Lubeck. Wicked and highly romantic robbers, we are told, took refuge in its castle, and thence sallied out to obtain forced loans from travellers and to requisition surrounding communities in the most approved style. One fine day, however, the peace-loving burgesses of Hamburg and Lubeck united, and after an attack on the town, they regularly smoked the hornets out of their nests in the rocks, and the dramatic brigand was seen no more in those parts. That was early in the fifteenth century, and soon after a certain duke of Saxony, who had been a protector of the Bergedorf band of brothers, made over his rights to Hamburg and Lubeck jointly. Ever since then the town has been sinking deeper and deeper into oblivion; its very history has to be dug out of old manuscripts; and but for the fortunate advent of Philately, it is impossible to say what would have become of it.

The foregoing (very thin) slice of history is a necessary introduction to the study of the stamps themselves, for the central figure of their unique design is formed of a crown and the half of an eagle of which the other half is evidently in durance vile. This quaint device is composed of the arms of Hamburg and Lubeck, the two protecting cities which, I may mention, for more than four hundred years alternately nominated the bailiff or governor of Bergedorf, and each supplied an equal number of soldiers to garrison the castle. The subordinate position of the town is further denoted by letters in the inner square—L. H. P. A.—which signify *Lubeck (and) Hamburg post Amt* (post office). It seems strange at first, that a town which had degenerated into a mere suburb of Hamburg should be allowed to issue stamps, and have a semi-independent existence of its own; but in this very fact we get a glimpse of old feudal practices and traditions. The town was placed in the position of a vassal, but its allegiance was due to commercial cities, which sometimes were hardly put to it to maintain their own independence; so, whilst Bergedorf was snubbed by its more powerful neighbors, they on their side had too much feeling for a sister town to govern it out of existence altogether, and so left it some of the symbols of sovereignty. When the North German Confederacy was established in 1866, a good many useful institutions, together with not a few time-honored shams, were annihilated; and it is among these latter, I fear, that the Bergedorf postmaster escaped the fate of his office, for he must have been a man of some originality and bent on marking his tenure of the situation by a striking innovation. To that effect he "created" (to use the French expression) the stamp which form the *raison d'etre* of this present article.

The intelligent inhabitants of Bergedorf did not participate in the blessings of postage stamps, till rather late in the day, for it was not until November, 1861, that the first set was issued. It consisted of two values only—the half schilling, black on violet paper, and the three schilling, black on rose. These two stamps, and especially the latter have attained a high degree of rarity. How many forgeries of them have been concocted, I cannot say, but perhaps it would be well, just here, to mention the one simple and un-failing test of genuineness, and that is—identity in every detail of engraving with the common stamps of the same values, namely, 1-2 schilling, indigo, and 3 schilling, purple on rose. The rare and the common are one and all from the same dies; therefore color is the only distinguishing point, and the slightest variation from the common type is bogus. To young beginners, for whom this advice is given, and who are thinking of investing in a set of first issue Bergedorf, my advice would be—Don't! unless you are prepared to pay a very high price for them, and are trading with a stamp dealer who has a character to lose.

The second series of stamps was issued only eleven days after the appearance of the first. Its values are pretty well known; still as they are now obsolete, it may be as well to mention that they are as follows:
1-2 schilling, black on violet.
1 schilling, black on white.
1 1-2 schilling, black on yellow.
3 schilling, purple on rose.
4 schilling, black on brown.
It would seem that the two rare stamps—though by the accident of their appearance before the rest they are considered to form a distinct series—ought rather

to be deemed varieties, seeing that they were not engraved before the other values, and that they showed the same distinctions of size. All five stamps were lithographed. They remained in circulation until 1867, when the post-office business was made over to the Confederation, and after their suppression, a sheet of proofs, taken in black from the original stone, made its appearance. From this interesting witness we have evidence of the order in which the stamps were drawn. On the first line are found the 4 and the 1 1-2 sch., below these, the 3 and the 1 sch., and under them again the 1-2 sch. stamp. It appears that this value was so extensively forged at Hamburg, that the Bergedorf postal authorities had caused a new design to be prepared, and were about to issue it when the war of 1866 broke out, and the project fell through. On this sheet of original proofs a peculiar error was noted. The 1 1-2 sch. bears on the left the word *schillinge* with an *e*, and it appears that some stamps were actually issued showing this variety—for very shortly the error was discovered, and in the lithographic transfer from which the sheets were printed the superfluous and ungrammatical *e* was effaced.

With the exception of the above mentioned design, Bergedorf is fortunate in not having any essays. The grotesque device which ornaments its stamps has not been further twisted and turned to suit the purpose, and fill the pocket of any ingenious counterfeiter. The stamps which have long been selling, since they ceased to circulate, below their facial value, are genuine remainders. Beginners, however, must accept them for what they are, and be thankful that they can get them so cheap.
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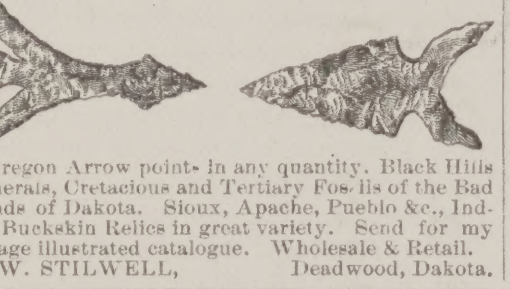
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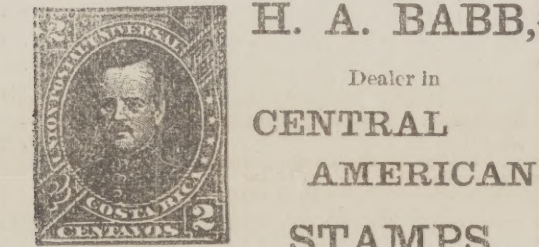
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18 cent, red, \$.15
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The Cardinal Redbird.

(*Cardinalis Virginianus*.)

To the graminivorous family of birds
belong many beautiful and interesting
species. Among the number we find the
subject of this sketch. This bird is per-
haps the most interesting one of the
genus. His wariness, his beautiful red
plumage and his peculiar note and ways
attract attention wherever he goes, and
make him an object worthy of admiration
and esteem, and bring him many enco-
miums from both old and young.

Like the quail, this bird "is strongly
attached to the home of his forefathers,"
and would rather endure the severity of
an Ohio winter than to undergo the labor
and troubles incident to migration.
Other birds, on hearing the shrill voice of
the North Wind, put off for realms of
perpetual warmth, and there they remain
until comes the "springtime thaw." It
is not thus with the Cardinal Redbird.
There are no long journeys, no changing
of climes for him. His holidays are
spent at home and in guarding the haunts
of the migrant species of the feathered
tribe during their absence.

From the window at which the writer
sits, though the weather is extremely cold
and though the ground and all visible
objects are covered or crowned with
snow, no less than three members of the
above-mentioned species may be seen
sporting festively among the icy branches
of a neighboring clump of trees. How
sprightly, how gaily they flit about and
how unmindful they are of their dreary
surroundings—"how unconscious of
care." Though beyond our hearing, their
actions prove clearly that they are fre-
quently uttering their short, sharp notes.
Almost every movement of this bird is
accompanied by one of these short, pecu-
liar notes. When scared or startled by
an intruder, these notes are more brisk
than usual and are uttered in quick suc-
cession. These sharp calls invariably
bring other members of the tribe to the
scene of the disturbance. Each comes
with ruffled feathers and uttering the
same cry, thus announcing to their dis-
tressed brother their willingness to join
hands in the issue at stake.

During the winter months these birds
seem to be more numerous than at other
periods of the year, but this is due to the
fact that during these months of cold and
snow they must frequently leave their
haunts and come to our barns and
dwellings in quest of food. And especially
do they do this when the fields are white
with snow, and it is at these periods that
hunger partially overcomes their wariness
and leads them into places where they
may be captured, providing your traps are
so arranged as not to excite their sus-
picious.

This bird, though kept a captive through
many years, never completely overcomes
its timidity or its fear of man. The two
specimens in cages above the writer's
head are always restless and watchful
when a stranger or any member of the
family approaches the cage. For several
days after they were first imprisoned they
would flutter about in a wild, excited
manner and would beat violently against
the sides of their prisons, and endeavor
in every possible way to escape. Very
frequently these birds refuse to eat, on
being imprisoned, and owing partly to
this fact and partly to the fact that they
injure themselves in their violent efforts
to escape, they die in one or two days.
In fact the number that die during the
first two or three days after confinement
is about equal to the number that live.

In its wild, free state this bird seldom,
if ever devotes time to the production of
"charming carols." It does not then per-
haps realize that the Creator has given it
no ordinary musical powers, and that it is
capable of producing notes divinely grand
and sweet,—psalms that would often
arrest the foot-fall on the grass and cause
many a weary, soul sick mortal to pause
in his journey to listen and then to glow
with wonder and admiration. But im-
prisonment undoubtedly changes the
nature of this charming bird. They say
that saints immortal spend all their time
singing hallelujahs and paying homage to
the great Jehovah. We sometimes think,
while listening to the grand, inspiring
notes of this bird, that this feathered
creature has persuaded itself into the be-
lief that it has been transported from its
native fields to a more sacred realm, and
that it must now spend the remainder of
its days in praising its Maker. To describe
the notes of this bird, giving all the
charming variations, is an impossibility
to any writer, hence this part of my story
must be left untold. We can only say
that its notes are grand, strange, and
possess a peculiar, indefinable fascination.
They are always loud and clear, and
sometimes they seem to echo joy, and at
other times to ring with woe. I have
never listened to their carols but what I
have been thrilled with a certain vague

undefined feeling, and felt like opening
the cage door and setting the "captive at
liberty."

The upper parts of this bird are of a
dark red color, while the lower parts are
of a lighter tint. The bird has an alar
extent of about nine inches and measures
nearly seven inches from the tip of its
bill to the end of its tail. Their nests are
built in divers places, but most generally
in some thicket or thick-set hedge. They
are always neatly formed. Small twigs,
leaves, fibres and fine grasses enter into
their composition. The eggs in a nest
number from two to four, and are white
in color, flecked at one end with brown.

The upper parts of the female Redbird
are of a brownish color; the lower parts
are a pale red inclining to white in a few
places. Taken in all, the female is a very
quiet and homely bird.

Its food consists of various seeds and
grains, and it frequently partakes of cer-
tain fruits. During imprisonment it will
feast freely upon apples, cooked or raw,
bread and like substances.

S. ESTLE MILLER.

The Stamp Collectors' Commandments.

I.—Thou shalt have no other hobby
but me (Philately.)

II.—Thou shalt not make to thyself any
cheap imitation of the noble art of stamp-
collecting, viz., the collecting of crests,
monograms, &c; thou shalt not purchase
thereof, or tamper with them, for I am a
jealous art requiring all thy loose cash to
be spent in acquiring Sydney Views and
other trifles.

III.—Thou shalt not speak lightly of
this, thy little pastime; neither shalt thou
broach my name in an irrelevant manner,
lest thou be put to chagrin by the pur-
chase of a—

IV.—Remember that thou hast six phil-
atelic days wherein to acquire thy little
rarities, but the seventh shalt thou con-
secrate to the arrangement of thine album
(seeing that the shops are closed.)

V.—Honor my parental relation who-
ever he may have been; but seeing that
my parentage has lately fallen into dis-
pute, perhaps it would be as well to give
respect to both the aspirants.

VI.—Murder not that valuable time
which should be devoted to my service,
but soak off and paste in as hard as thou
art able. Remember that upon thy exer-
tions depends the poor stamp-jobber.

VII.—Thou shalt not adulterate thy
rare old colonial collection with such
worthless pieces of paper as fac similes
&c., the same being forgeries, and only
surcharged to escape the law.

VIII.—Thou shalt not dishonorably
acquire any addition to thy collection, by
taking advantage of the innocence of ju-
veniles who send thee uncalled for selec-
tions on approval; neither shalt thou
change the stamps upon approval sheets,
but return same "in good condition with-
in 8 days," thus giving the little boys a
chance.

IX.—Thou shalt not be envious of thy
co-collector, but give him credit for hav-
ing a collection as valuable as thine own,
notwithstanding those little eccentricities
which are to be met with in every album.
Should he have acquired such, put it down
to his youth.

X.—Thou shalt not cast a lustful eye
upon the contents of a stamp-shop win-
dow, but shouldst thou find thyself in pos-
session of carnal desires, place thy hand
upon the needful, and entering, prepare
to meet thy fate.—[Philatelic Critic.

California Gold.

California gold bangles are all the rage
now, for pins, bracelets, and rings. We
have just received a large stock direct
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them at the following prices: Quar. dol.
size, 28 cents; half dol. size, 56 cents,
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Knife Case, elegantly beaded, 3.00
Arrow Holder, " 5.00
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dian Buckskin Belles in great variety. Send for my
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